

The Arabian Year Book 1987/88



ARAB TIMES

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Kuwait seeks OIC bureau meeting

JEDDAH, Jan 15: Well-informed sources in the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) told the Arab Times today that Kuwait, which presides over the current OIC session, has proposed a meeting of the Presidency Bureau.

Kuwait said in its proposal that the situations in the Islamic world, the progress made in the implementation of the resolutions taken at the Fifth Islamic Summit, and future plans and other developments would form the agenda.

Summit

The bureau consists of the chairman, HH the Amir, and the heads of the four main committees, namely the King of Morocco, and the presidents of Turkey, Senegal and Pakistan. The bureau includes the three vice presidents, namely, the heads of state of Maldives and Gabon and the PLO chairman.

The sources said that Kuwait has called for the meeting to be held on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Fifth Islamic Summit held in Kuwait during January last year.

The sources did not say when the meeting would be held, but added that it might take place after the UN Security Council's debate on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories in which the OIC secretary-general and a number of Islamic foreign ministers will participate.

Pirzada arrives in Kuwait

SECRETARY-General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, Sharifuddin Pirzada has arrived in Kuwait yesterday.

Speaking to reporters upon arrival, Pirzada said his visit aims at exchanging views on all important issues affecting the Islamic nation and future course of action to be adopted by the OIC.

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ان کے اردو صفحات میں
میں نے تادیر کو دل اور زبان کے ساتھ
خوب سے شہر و قلعہ
سلاخی و کسلی کی کہیں نہیں دیکھا
کچھ عادت خرابہ آد
پاکستان کے لئے میری دعا کا دیکھائی
کہ وہاں صاف ہے
بڑا سرور و عزت ہے میری کیا کاٹا
تاکہ میرے کا استراحت ہو
یہاں میں گزرتا ہوں پاکستان اور اس کے
تو میرے لئے ہے کہ

WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with light to moderate southeasterly to moderate southwesterly wind.

High water: 5.00 am, 10.00 pm
Low water: 3.00 am, 4.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.43 am
Sunset: 5.12 pm

Minimum temperature recorded:
Makkah: 15°C 59°F
Ahmed: 18°C 64°F
Palestine: 15°C 59°F

Maximum temperature expected:
Makkah: 15°C 59°F
Ahmed: 15°C 59°F
Palestine: 15°C 59°F

Minimum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 65 per cent
Makkah: 65 per cent
Palestine: 65 per cent

Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 88 per cent
Makkah: 88 per cent
Palestine: 88 per cent

Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 9°C 48°F
Makkah: 12°C 54°F
Palestine: 15°C 59°F

90 injured as Israeli police beat up protesters Clashes near Al Aqsa on day of mourning

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (Agencies): Israeli police clashed with stone-throwing Palestinian protesters on Jerusalem's Temple Mount today, injuring at least 90, while the Army killed another Arab in Israeli occupied Gaza city.

The UN Security Council, meanwhile, called on Israel to rescind its deportation of Palestinian civilians and allow the return of those already expelled.

Tear gas wafted into Al Aqsa Mosque, one of Islam's holiest shrines, and demonstrators outside hurled Israeli and American flags and beat a plainclothes policeman unconscious after grabbing his pistol when he tried to fire warning shots, witnesses said.

Police in riot gear baton-charged about 300 Palestinian protesters who chanted Islamic slogans after Friday prayers in the Haram Al Shari (prohibited sanctuary).

Treated

A doctor at Mokassed Islamic Hospital said about 90 casualties were treated there, including two dozen men who had been clubbed in the rioting and dozens suffering the effects of tear gas.

Several police men limped away from the clash wounded.

Police said they arrested eight protesters.

The riots came on a day of mourning declared by Palestinian nationalist organisations to honour 37 Arabs killed by Israeli forces since an anti-Israeli uprising erupted on Dec 9 in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The latest Gaza death took the unofficial toll to 38.

An Army spokeswoman said Ibrahim Mahmoud Abu Nahel, 31, was shot dead in Gaza's Sheikh Radwan district when he stabbed a soldier in the leg after barring a doorway to troops chasing a youth who threw stones at an Army patrol.

The man's family disputed the police report.

Army account and said he was killed in a clash with club-wielding soldiers who tried to force him off the roof of his house.

Troops stormed the Al Amari Mosque in central Gaza after loudspeakers on the minaret called for a holy war against the Jews and urged people to demonstrate.

Disperse

An officer fired live ammunition to disperse rioters stoning troops from the wall of the mosque, witnesses said.

Soldiers fired tear gas into the mosque compound and some demonstrators collapsed in the fumes.

Reporters were repeatedly driven away by the Army and some photographers said they were threatened with beating and having their film confiscated.

Elsewhere the Army said it shot and wounded two Palestinians in the West Bank village of Salbit, south of Nablus, after dozens of masked youths attacked a police station with stones, bottles and metal projectiles.

Six Gaza leaders — including the president of the Lawyers' Union, Faez Abu Rahme, the head of the Red Crescent Society, Dr Haidar Abdel Shafi, and the leader of the Doctors' Association, Dr Zacharia Al Azra — were summoned by the Israeli authorities and told they were barred from leaving the Gaza Strip until further notice.

The measure was apparently intended to prevent them from coordinating with Palestinian leaders in the West Bank and meeting diplomats and journalists in Jerusalem.

Israel rounded up 10 leading Palestinians yesterday. Six journalists including editor Hanna Siniora, were among those rounded up.

Thirteen Palestinian refugee camps, including all eight in the Gaza Strip, were under curfew today as the Army deployed a massive presence in a bid to snuff out unrest.

United Nations relief workers and ambulances have also been barred from entering several Gaza camps, UN officials said.

The UN Security Council has again called on Israel not to deport Palestinian civilians, but the United States withheld support it gave for a similar appeal 10 days ago.

The council agreed to meet again today — this time to consider a complaint by Lebanon about Israeli incursions in the southern part of that country.

In a 14-0 vote, the United States abstained yesterday on the council's resolution calling on Israel to permit the return of four Palestinians it expelled to Lebanon after accusing them of inciting violence in the West Bank and Gaza.

In Chitaura, Lebanon, four Palestinians, staging a sit-in at a Red Cross office in southeast



The Palestinian deportees (left to right) Jibril Mahmoud Rajub, Jamal Jabara, Bashir Ahmed Khayri and Hussam Hadar seen in the town of Rashaya in Lebanon's western Bekaa Valley. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lebanon to protest their deportation from Israeli-occupied territory, vowed today to return to their homes.

They said they would make the office in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley their base until their plight was solved.

"We insist on going back to Palestine at any cost," they said, adding: "We will continue to escalate our resistance to return to our land."

Jibril Mahmoud Rajub, 34, Bashir Ahmed Khayri, 45, Hussam Hadar, 26, and Jamal Jabara, 28, spent a cold and damp night in tents pitched on muddy wasteland opposite the ICRC office in the village of Ksara — home for some 500 Christians.

In Tunis, the head of the Arab League said today that next week's emergency meeting of League foreign ministers would concentrate on Israel's 20-year occupation of Arab territories.

Tanker war hots up as Iran raids three ships

DUBAI, Jan 15, (Reuters): Iranian gunboats attacked a Liberian tanker in the southern Gulf today just hours after ambushing a Norwegian tanker at the entrance to the waterway, shipping sources said.

They said a US warship contacted the 36,750-tonne Liberian-flag Atlantic Charisma after it sent out an emergency call that it had been hit 15 miles off the UAE port of Jebel Ali.

The attack was the third by Iran in two days, signalling a full-scale resumption of the Gulf tanker war in 1988.

It followed two unconfirmed reports by Iraq that its planes had hit two Iranian ships within 12 hours.

The shipping sources said the captain of the Atlantic Charisma had declined an offer of aid by the US warship but his vessel was losing power.

"We don't know if he is on fire or needs a tug," one source said. It was not known if there were casualties.

The ship was hit close to the UAE coast, at 1530 GMT, sources said.

Raided

Seven hours earlier, Iranian gunboats raided the 13,524-tonne Norwegian liquid petroleum carrier Igloo Espoo with machine-gun and rocket fire as it sailed fully loaded out of the Gulf for South Korea from the Saudi Arabian port of Jubail.

Two crewmen were slightly injured in that attack.

Reporters in helicopters saw the Igloo in the territorial waters of Oman and said the fire appeared to have been extinguished.

An Omani patrol boat raced to the scene and took off the two injured men for treatment in the Sultanate, they said. The injured were taken back on board the gas carrier by the patrol boat later after they were attended.

Sailors wearing breathing apparatus clambered over the ship apparently checking for possible gas leaks caused by the Iranian machine-gun fire.

Olav Olufsen, a director of the Havtor Company in Norway, said "none of the tanks were hit. But there was a fire in the deck houses and at the engine."

As the tanker war hotted up, Tehran's top war spokesman said Iranian ground forces along the front line with Iraq were on full alert awaiting the order to start a new offensive.

"We are now in the best position for restoring our rights," Tehran Radio quoted Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as telling a Friday prayers gathering in Tehran.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said the first air attack on a "large naval target" took place yesterday evening and the second at early this morning, according to the official Iraqi news agency.

The raids were designed "to stop the Iraqis from exploiting their oil revenues," the agency quoted the spokesman saying.

Iran yesterday attacked an empty Dutch tanker in retaliation for a deadly Iraqi raid on another tanker in Iranian service.

That strike was the first by Iran on shipping in the Gulf since Christmas Day, when Iranian speedboats attacked the Saudi tanker Nejm el Petrol.

An Iranian frigate and a speedboat ambushed the 20,466-ton Petrobrul Pioneer before dawn yesterday, cascading rocket-propelled grenades and cannon and machine-gun fire on the helpless vessel off the UAE, shipping officials said.

Bullets and shells slammed into the superstructure and starboard crew quarters. Two Filipino crewmen cut their legs during a frantic dash for cover, shipping officials said.

The frigate fired 4-1/2-inch shells at the hull of the tanker and opened a hole below the waterline. The captain reported two holes in his bunker tanks and severe damage to the engine room.

The captain of the Petrobrul Pioneer, a chemical tanker that was apparently bound for Bahrain in ballast, refused an offer from a nearby tug and nursed his ship to anchorage at Dubai. There was no apparent involvement of US naval forces.

Britain is considering reducing its minesweeper force in the Gulf.

(Continued on Page 5)

THE WORLD THIS MORNING

Macbride dies

DUBLIN, (Reuters): Nobel peace prize winner Sean Macbride has died at his Dublin home aged 83, his family announced yesterday. Macbride won the peace prize in 1974 for his human rights work and had the rare distinction of also being awarded the Soviet equivalent, the Lenin prize.

US rejects

GENEVA, (Reuters): The United States rejected a new Soviet arms proposal yesterday, saying it was aimed at crippling the American "Star Wars" anti-missile defence project. (See Page 2)

Top award

BEIJING, (AP): A controversial movie, "A Small Town called Hibiscus," about a small town's sufferings during the cultural revolution won China's top film award yesterday after months of behind-the-scenes wrangling.

India win

MADRAS, India, Jan 15, (Reuters): India beat West Indies by 255 runs on the fourth day of the fourth and final cricket test today to level the series 1-1. Scores: India 382 and 217 for eight declared. West Indies 184 and 160.

French envoy escapes attempt on life in Manila

MANILA, Jan 15, (Reuters): A gunman shot at the French ambassador to the Philippines yesterday in an apparently politically-motivated attack, the first on a foreign diplomat in Manila.

The attack was aimed at Ambassador Jacques Le Blanc but his motivation remained a mystery, the sources said.

Le Blanc was not hurt in the attack when bullet-proof rear windows on his grey Renault R25 car deflected a single shot fired at point blank range by a gunman who had apparently been waiting for several hours. Sources believe the gun used was a .45 calibre pistol.

A French Embassy source said the attack appeared to be part of continued attempts to destabilise the Philippines.

Other Western embassies said privately they could not rule out the possibility that it was staged by an international terrorist group.

1.92m Japanese reach adulthood

TOKYO, Jan 15, (AP): About 1.9 million Japanese youth who became 20 years old during the past 12 months observed their coming of age in Adult Day ceremonies across the country today.

Many of the young people mark the traditional national holiday by dressing up and attending ceremonies at public offices throughout the country, with some women donning colourfully kimonos.

According to a report from the government's management and coordination agency, 980,000 men and 940,000 women born between Jan 16, 1967, and Jan 15, 1968, became adults after marking their 20th birthday.

The report, released yesterday, said it is the first time in 16 years that the number of new adults exceeded 1.9 million. A total 1.93 million turned 20 in 1972.

The 1.92 million youths represent about 1.57 per cent of Japan's total population estimated at 122.26 million, said the agency report.

Dollar up

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (Agencies): A 25 per cent drop in the monthly US trade deficit sent stocks, bonds and the dollar's value sharply higher in frenetic financial markets this morning.

The announcement by the Commerce Department that the November deficit fell to \$13.2 billion from \$17.6 billion in October electrified traders and incited some of the biggest buying waves since the October stock market crash. Gold bullion prices were higher.

N. Korean woman admits destroying Seoul plane

SEOUL, Jan 15, (Reuters): South Korea threatened "all possible forms of retaliation" against the North after a young woman confessed on national television today she was a communist agent and had blown up an airliner with 115 people on board.

Kim Hyon-Hui, 26, helped plant the bomb on a Seoul-bound Korean Air Lines jet on the direct orders of Kim Jong-Il, son and heir apparent of North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung, South Korean intelligence officials said.

One of the goals of the Nov 29 bombing was to discourage foreign countries from taking part in the Olympic Games in Seoul in Sept, they said.

Alert

The Seoul government placed its 600,000-strong armed forces on full alert and Information Minister Lee Woong-Hee said in a statement North Korea "can never escape punishment, including corresponding retaliatory measures, for this barbaric terrorist act."



Kim Hyon-Hui, admits

Defence Minister Chung Ho-Yong told a news conference he had called an emergency meeting of top military commanders to discuss "all possible forms of retaliation against the enemy."

Long-haired and attractive, Kim Hyon-Hui told today's televised news conference she deserved "to die a hundred times over."

"But, before I die, I decided to reveal the whole truth of the incident to help make up for the horrible crime I have committed," said the woman previously known as "Mayumi Hachiya."

the name on her forged Japanese passport.

"I also want to help appease those who died and their relatives, even if it is very small compensation for their loss," she added.

A top South Korean intelligence official said the North Korean agent boarded the doomed plane in Baghdad with a partner. They got off at the plane's next stop in Abu Dhabi.

The aircraft vanished a few hours later over the Andaman Sea near Burma. No bodies have been recovered.

The pair, posing as father and daughter and travelling on false Japanese passports, were arrested two days later in Bahrain.

They tried to evade interrogation by swallowing cyanide capsules contained in cigarettes. The man, said to be in his 70s, died but the woman survived and was extradited to South Korea on Dec 15.

South Korean intelligence officials say she confessed after.

(Continued on Page 2)

Arafat sets conditions for accepting UN resolution 242

BAGHDAD, Jan 15, (AP): PLO leader Yasser Arafat warned yesterday that Palestinian protests in Israeli-held territory would go on, but said he would accept United Nations resolution 242 if Israel and the United States dropped opposition to PLO attendance at a Mideast peace conference.

But he stressed that the international conference must be based on all United Nations resolutions, including those calling for Palestinian self-determination as well as resolution 242

that calls for recognition of Israel's right to exist behind secure borders.

"We would accept 242" on that basis, Arafat said in an interview at his heavily guarded military headquarters in Baghdad's southern suburb of Jadirya.

"As this conference would be under UN auspices, that means the full legality of all UN resolutions, including 242 and 338" would be recognised, the PLO leader said.

He said that these resolutions

must include those passed by the UN General Assembly that have supported Palestinians' right to an independent homeland and those calling for an Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory seized in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

He said that to reassure Israel about its security alongside any Palestinian state, he would allow UN troops to patrol the border on Palestinian territory.

The United States has rejected direct negotiations with the PLO in Middle East peace efforts.

But Arafat, clearly linking the Palestinian "uprising" in the Israeli-held West Bank and Gaza with efforts to get an international peace conference off the ground, stressed that the unrest demonstrated the Palestinian will for an end to the occupation.

Negotiate

An Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman accused Arafat of "double talk" after the PLO chairman made his offer.

Other Israeli government officials also reiterated that

Israel will not negotiate with the PLO.

The PLO proposal "is yet another demonstration of the double talk of Mr Arafat," Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol said. "We never took these statements seriously in the past, and we don't take them seriously now."

Added Avi Pazner, an aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir: "There is nothing new in what Arafat proposes. He knows perfectly well that Israel is not ready to negotiate with him."

Genscher praises Assad

DAMASCUS, Jan 15, (AP): West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher began a visit to Syria today, praising President Hafez Assad and saying he looks "forward with great interest" to his talks in Damascus.

Genscher is the highest ranking Bonn official to visit Damascus since the European Economic Community imposed sanctions against Syria after it was implicated in 1986 plot to blow up an Israeli airliner in London. Syria denied the charges.

Government sources in Bonn indicated yesterday that Genscher, which hold the current presidency of the EEC would like the sanctions against Syria lifted.

"I am happy to visit Syria again and to have the chance to continue dialogue with Syrian officials, and follow up important issues connected with international policy," Genscher said in a statement at Damascus airport.

Deep

There is a deep convergence of points of view between our two countries," he said.

Genscher was greeted on arrival by his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Al Sharara.

During his two-day stay, Genscher was expected to meet with Assad and other Syrian officials.

In his arrival statement, Genscher said: "We appreciate the responsible and important role played by President Assad and Syria in this region. Therefore, it is important for us at this stage precisely to exchange views and dialogue based on responsibility by the two sides."

He said: "I will discuss bilateral relations and I am looking forward and with great interest to my talks in Syria."

The West German Foreign Ministry said yesterday that Genscher's talks would also touch on the 7-year-old war between Iran and Iraq, the situation in Lebanon and chances for an international Middle East peace conference.

Cutting intercontinental nuclear arms by half and curbing space weapons

Soviets make new offer on limiting missiles

GENEVA, Jan 15, (Reuters): The Soviet Union made new offers on cutting superpower intercontinental nuclear arms by half and curbing space weapons at a special negotiating session with the United States today.

Soviet arms delegation leader Alexei Ohukhov said the new proposals covered ways of implementing an agreement in principle to cut intercontinental-range weapons by half, to 6,000 warheads on each side, and limit space arms.

The meeting at the Soviet

diplomatic mission lasted an hour and 40 minutes. It included 20-strong teams on each side. The superpowers opened their ninth round of arms talks yesterday.

President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev told negotiators to complete a treaty to halve strategic, or intercontinental, nuclear arms as soon as possible — preferably in time for signing at a summer summit in Moscow.

Chief American arms negotiator Max Kampelman

entered the session with Henry Cooper, head of the US team on long-range arms, and Read Hamner, head of the team discussing space and defence weapons.

US arms delegation spokesman Terry Schroeder said the Soviets presented a single document which covered both long-range and space weapons.

"The emphasis was on defence and space arms," he added, but declined to give details. "We will study it carefully."

Schroeder said the presentation by Ohukhov was followed by a

good deal of discussion between the two delegations. Kampelman left for Washington shortly after the meeting concluded.

Soviet negotiators requested the special session late last night and Kampelman had to delay his plans to leave for Washington this morning.

Ohukhov and Kampelman met for lunch when the talks opened yesterday but the senior Soviet negotiator told reporters he made no mention of the planned new offer.

The separate teams on long-

range arms and space weapons will meet today to discuss the Soviet proposals further. Lem Masterkov heads the Soviet team on long-range weapons and Yuri Kuznetsov leads the team on space arms.

The superpowers have argued bitterly over defence and space weapons since resuming their arms control effort in March 1985, and a summit in Iceland in October 1986 broke down with angry exchanges on the issue.

The dispute centres on the Strategic Defence Initiative

(SDI), or "Star Wars" project, launched by Reagan in March 1983. SDI has been studying land and space-based anti-missile defence systems meant to shoot down attacking missiles.

The Kremlin has fiercely opposed the project, saying it would upset the nuclear balance between the superpowers and herald an arms race in space.

Soviet negotiators insisted at the outset of the talks that the "Star Wars" project be abandoned, and still want strict limits on research and development.

Argentine rebel official flees as troops move in

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, Jan 15, (AP): The leader of a rebellion at a military school escaped from house arrest under the cover of night, authorities said today.

Lt Aldo Rico, leader of the April revolt at Campo de Mayo Army base in Buenos Aires, apparently fled with a group of rebel sympathisers, the government news agency Telam reported.

Two Army officials found no sign of Rico when they looked for him where he and about 40 armed sympathisers were holed up, Los Fresnos Country Club, Telam said.

A communique reportedly signed overnight by Rico had warned he would not be taken into custody "until a minimum of justice is guaranteed," saying his case jeopardises "the stability of the system, internal peace and national defence."

Salvador Lentini, owner of the country club where Rico had been held under house arrest since Dec 30 pending trial, was quoted by Telam as saying he had no idea where Rico had gone.

There was an unconfirmed report Rico had been injured while abandoning his home, where about 20 shots were heard.

Loyalist troops, tanks and armoured vehicles had arrived early today at an Army base near

the country club in northwestern Buenos Aires.

Army Chief of Staff Jose D. Caridi ordered the show of force, which includes 14 tanks and 16 vehicles, to maintain discipline in the armed forces and help bring Rico to justice to face charges in connection with the April revolt even if it led to "blood and fire."

Military sources told the Argentine news agency, Diarios Y Noticias, that Caridi fired three garrison commanders who declined to take part in the military action against Rico and his sympathisers.

Charges

Military judge Hugo Beltramo was scheduled to go to the country club at 8 a.m. (100 GMT) with an order for Rico's return to jail to face charges of rebellion and disobedience in connection with his April 19-21 takeover of a military school at Campo de Mayo.

He faces a prison term of five years to 25 years if convicted.

Military sources say at least 20 sympathisers, most armed with handguns and rifles, were at the country club along with Rico, his wife and two children. Most were believed members of the armed forces who took part with Rico in the April revolt, which ended peacefully with Rico's surrender.

Rico had been held for eight months in military confinement at Campo de Mayo after his arrest.

Iranian factions rally to Khomeini's ruling

NICOSIA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Iranian leaders have rallied to a ruling by supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini on state powers which opens the way for reformist legislation on controversial economic issues.

The public display of unity came after Khomeini sided with reform-minded groups in the leadership and declared last week the Islamic government had absolute powers and could nullify Islamic contracts if they were harmful to state interests.

The ruling, Khomeini's strongest pronouncement on the crucial issue of state authority, flew in the face of the traditionalist conservative wing in the Iranian leadership which seeks to limit the government's role in the economy.

But within a week members of the Guardian Council, a 12-man body of clergy and lawyers with veto power over parliament and a bastion of traditionalist views — fell into line and joined other officials in praising Khomeini's landmark verdict.

President Ali Khamenei, whose interpretation of the role of the state was rejected by Khomeini as too narrow, declared he accepted Khomeini's views as "inviolable principles of Islam."

Analysts say this underlines the unique role of Khomeini, 85, and his unrivalled authority which makes open, legal opposition to his views virtually impossible.

However traditionalist views have a wide following among bazaar merchants and senior Muslim clergy who are unlikely to give up their private sector policies easily.

Norway to expel 3 more Iranians

OSLO, Jan 15, (Reuters): Norway has decided to expel the remaining three of 11 Iranian leftists jailed last month for storming their country's Oslo embassy, police said today.

The three, who had requested asylum in Norway, will be expelled to France, where they already hold resident visas, a police spokesman told Reuters.

The other eight were expelled earlier this month to Sweden and West Germany.

"We do not know exactly when the Iranians are to be expelled as we need a guarantee from France that they (the authorities) will accept them," police spokesman Villars Nilsen said.

Jackson, Harris and U2 win 4 Grammy nominations each

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (UPI): American singers Michael Jackson and Emmylou Harris and the Irish rock band U2 headed the list of pop nominees for the 30th annual Grammy awards announced yesterday.

Jackson, Harris and U2 all had four nominations. Bruce Springsteen, Whitney Houston, Los Lobos, Prince, Wynton Marsalis, Izhak Perlman and eight other artists were nominated in three categories.

U2 could be the big winner, with nominations for Album of the Year ("The Joshua Tree"), Record of the Year and Song of the Year ("I Still Haven't Found

What I'm Looking For").

The most nominations in the classical categories went to Kathleen Battle with a total of five nominations, including Best Classical Vocal performance and four nominations in the opera category.

Best male

Both Jackson and Springsteen were nominated for Best Male Pop Vocal performance. Jackson's "BAD" album was nominated for Album of the Year and the Title Track was nominated for Best Male Rhythm and Blues Vocal performance. Jackson shared a nomination for Producer of the Year with Quincy Jones.

Springsteen also picked up a nomination for Best Rock Vocal performance for his work on the "Tunnel of Love" album, and Best Rock Instrumental performance for "Paradise by the C."

The winners will be announced at the Grammy Award ceremonies telecast live from Radio City Music Hall on March 2, hosted by comedian Bill Crystal for the second straight year.

The National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences chose the nominees for recordings in 71 categories released during the year running from Oct 1, to Sept 30, 1987.

US to dismantle airbase near Madrid

MADRID, Jan 15, (Reuters): The United States has agreed to dismantle its airbase at Torreon near Madrid, Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez told reporters today.

Fernandez Ordonez said Washington would remove all 72 F-16 fighter-bombers from the Torreon base no more than three years after signature of a new bilateral defence pact.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the new pact was likely to be signed by May.

Friday's announcement was the culmination of 18 months of often tense talks between Spain and the United States on Madrid's demand for the base's removal.

The United States has accepted Spain's terms for troop cuts, Fernandez Ordonez told a news conference after the weekly cabinet meeting.

He said this meant US troops would leave Torreon altogether and would be cut by half throughout Spain.

The United States retains airbases at Saragossa in northeastern Spain and Moron in the south as well as a major naval

base at Rota near the Strait of Gibraltar.

It had been allowed to station up to 12,500 troops in Spain under a 34-year-old defence agreement.

Cleared

Fernandez Ordonez said the breakthrough agreement came at 8.30 am (0730 GMT) today and cleared the way for negotiations on a new defence pact to start on Feb 3.

"The attitude of Spain has been loyal... we wanted a stable and mature relationship with the United States," he said.

Deadlock on its demands for significant cuts in US troops prompted Spain's Socialist government to say last year it would not automatically extend the pact first signed in 1953 under the late dictator Francisco Franco.

Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez had pledged to win significant cuts in US troops when he campaigned in a national referendum in 1986 to uphold Spain's membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato). Spain joined the alliance in 1982.

Seoul boy in coma after police torture

SEOUL, Jan 15, (Reuters): Korean state prosecutors are investigating allegations that a 16-year-old boy fell into a coma after being tortured in police detention, prosecution sources said today.

In Seoul, more than 1,000 students hurling firebombs and rocks fought pitched battles with teargas-firing riot police on a university campus, yesterday marking the first anniversary of student activist Park Chong-Chol's death under police torture.

The 16-year-old, Myong No-Yol, collapsed a week ago after being battered with clubs by two policemen in Suwon, just south of Seoul, while being questioned on suspicion of raping and killing a high school girl, the sources said. He failed to regain consciousness, and was surviving on a life support system.

Alleged

The sources said prosecutors were questioning several policemen, including the one alleged to have taken part in the beating. The other officer implicated was still being sought.

South Korean newspapers said Myong lay brain-dead in a Suwon Hospital, but there was no immediate confirmation.

South Korean President-elect Roh Tae-Woo had earlier pledged to reopen a probe into the police cover-up of Park's death after a government doctor who carried out the post-mortem, said not all the facts had been revealed.

One in four adults in US overweight

ATLANTA, Jan 15, (UPI): Nearly one of every four adults in the United States is overweight, federal health officials said, and fat women outnumber fat men by a slight margin.

The national Centers for Disease Control said yesterday that face-to-face health interviews found 23.5 per cent of American men and 24.2 per cent of women are overweight.

The CDC report on obese adults coincided with a 1986 study of obesity conducted by telephone in 25 states and the district of Columbia. That study showed obesity ranged from a high of 24 per cent in West Virginia to a low of 14 per cent in Hawaii and Utah.

Divided

The definition of overweight used in the study was based on what the CDC called "the body mass index," or weight divided by height. It said this formula was used because it had a high correlation with body weight and virtually no correlation with height.

Among the 25 states in the survey, North Dakota had the highest percentage of overweight men — 24 per cent — and Hawaii the lowest — 14 per cent.

For women, the highest prevalence, 26 per cent, was observed in West Virginia and the District of Columbia and the lowest, 12 per cent, in Arizona and Utah.

Bush wins in Michigan

DETROIT, Jan 15, (AP): George Bush, storming back from early setbacks defeated a coalition of conservative opponents last night in bitterly contested Michigan caucuses that set the stage for selection of the first Republican presidential nominating delegates.

The meetings were marked by more than two dozen walkouts by supporters of former television evangelist Pat Robertson and Congressman Jack Kemp. The supporters manoeuvred to challenge the vice president's victory.

With 96 per cent of the county caucuses counted, Bush supporters had clinched a majority of the 1,805 delegate seats to the Jan 29 to 30 state convention. They claimed 57 per cent of the slots with Robertson winning 23 per cent and Kemp 17 per cent.

Impossible

The state meeting will choose Michigan's 77 delegates to the Republican national convention in New Orleans.

The Michigan GOP's system made it impossible to use the county results to determine precisely how Michigan's 77 delegates would be distributed.

The Associated Press calculated that if the county results are mirrored at the state convention, Bush could win between 45 and 59 national convention delegates, depending on what rules are adopted. Robertson could get between 18 and 21 delegates, while Kemp could receive as many as 11 or as few as none.

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Sergeant arrested

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (Reuters): A US Army sergeant, Daniel Richardson, at an important military testing base has been arrested for allegedly attempting to sell national defence secrets to the Soviet Union, the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gang of Four

BEIJING, Jan 15, (UPI): China said today that Mao Tse-tung's widow Jiang Qing and the rest of the infamous "Gang of Four" remain in prison for crimes committed during the 1960 cultural revolution, calling reports some have been released "groundless."

It was the first response in the official press to recent reports that Jiang, 74, serving a life sentence for orchestrating the murder and persecution of thousands during the 1960s and 1970s, had been released due to ill health to serve her time at a daughter's home.

Medicine shortage

BEIJING, Jan 15, (AP): The lives of some patients in Shanghai hospitals are at risk from a lack of such basic medicines as insulin and penicillin, the official China daily reported today.

The daily, quoting a report from a Shanghai newspaper, said about 160 medicines have fallen far short of demand, mainly as a result of a lack of raw materials and low prices that discourage production.

War-disabled team

BANGKOK, Jan 15, (AP): The United States today sent a team into Vietnam to discuss ways to help the one-time enemy with its humanitarian problems, including invalids from the war with the United States.

US embassy spokesman Ross Petzing said the four-member team, the third such delegation to Vietnam, would meet with "counterparts in Hanoi to continue discussions regarding Vietnamese humanitarian concerns."

Hurricane

VILA, Jan 15, (AP): At least 2,000 people were left homeless and many fled to caves for shelter after a hurricane lashed this south Pacific island nation, officials said today.

"Homes were completely destroyed in the north, and they're living in caves," said James Mori, programme producer at radio Vanuatu.

Plane crash

JAKARTA, Jan 15, (AP): A light Cessna aircraft carrying five people crashed in the jungle of east Kalimantan, killing one passenger, an Indonesian official said today.

The pilot, Terry Wohlgenuth, an American, and another Indonesian passenger were being treated for light injuries, an official of the search and rescue agency said.

Malnutrition

DHAKA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Malnutrition and vitamin A deficiencies have already blinded more than one million Bangladeshis and another million are close to losing their eyesight, doctors said yesterday.

Among the victims are nearly 30,000 children suffering from an eye disease mainly caused by malnutrition, a conference of the ophthalmological society was told.

Hepatitis test

CHICAGO, Jan 15, (UPI): All pregnant women should be tested for hepatitis B and the infants of those who test positive should be immunised shortly after birth, government scientists say.

Such a programme could prevent more than 2,500 new infections in the United States and save \$105 million a year, according to a report in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Bork quits

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (Reuters): Angry over a campaign that sank his US Supreme Court nomination, Robert Bork has quit as a federal judge to fight for his conservative judicial philosophy.

Collision

THOMPSONTOWN, Pennsylvania, Jan 15, (AP): A coal train that apparently ran a stop signal slammed head-on into another freight train yesterday, killing four of the six crewmen aboard the trains, officials said.

N. Korean woman

(Continued from Page 1)

eight days of interrogation.

Diplomats speculated Seoul did not make the confession public until now because it did not wish to discourage communist countries from accepting invitations to take part in the Olympics.

Moscow and its main East European allies have now confirmed they will take part, clearing the way for the North Korean spy's public confession.

China, which sent troops to fight alongside North Koreans during the Korean War, also announced this week it would participate in the Games.



Armed presidential guards patrol the area where President Aquino attended a campaign rally. (Reuter wirephoto)

Extremists harming democracy

Aquino denounces violence

MANILA, Jan 15, (AP): President Corazon Aquino today denounced the mounting violence to campaigns for next week's local elections, saying it was part of desperate efforts by leftist and right-wing Philippine extremists to derail her country's return to democracy.

Mrs Aquino issued the statement after a visit to a candidate wounded in a series of violent incidents that left at least seven people, two of them candidates, dead and 11 others injured throughout the country in the last 72 hours.

Death toll
The military, which depends on delayed reports from rural areas, says 67 people, including 34 candidates, have been killed since the campaign for Monday's balloting began on Dec 1. Local mass media place the death toll at more than 80.

"I must strongly deplore the continuing violence in the current campaign for the Jan 18 elections," Mrs Aquino said. "These acts of violence prove that the enemies of democracy have resorted to naked and wanton terrorism as a last desperate act."

She blamed the killings on the "extreme left and the extreme right" who are "out to plunge our country into anarchy and derail the elections" in the same manner that they tried to disrupt ratification of a new constitution in February 1987 and last May's congressional elections.

In the latest election-related incidents, unidentified gunmen killed three people and wounded seven others, including three candidates, in separate incidents Thursday, police said.

Among the candidates injured was Walfrido Ferrer, administration nominee for mayor of the Manila suburb of Paranaque, who suffered a gunshot wound in the abdomen when three gunmen opened fire on a stage during a campaign rally last night.

A female bystander was killed and seven other people, including two candidates for the town council, were injured, police said. Ferrer is the younger brother of the late local government secretary Jaime Ferrer who was assassinated last August.

Earlier, Foreign Secretary Raul Maoglapus said on Thursday the Philippines would never achieve stability or democracy until the outlawed Communist Party was made legal.

"Unless we undertake this integration, we can never enjoy fully fledged democracy," he told a meeting of diplomats.

But Maoglapus said President Aquino did not feel it was the proper time politically to take up the issue and others in government did not share his belief.

Islamabad doesn't possess N-device, certifies Reagan

US aid to Pakistan will continue

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (Agencies): President Reagan today certified in December that Pakistan "does not possess a nuclear explosive device," clearing the way for American aid to Pakistan to continue, the Washington Post reported today.

Reagan's letter, required by Congress, was sent to congressional leaders Dec 17 but not released publicly.

Reagan wrote that based "on the evidence available and on the statutory standard, I have concluded that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear explosive device."

Concern
"The proposed United States assistance programme for Pakistan remains extremely important in reducing the risk that Pakistan will develop and ultimately possess such a device," Reagan wrote, according to the Post.

"I am convinced that our security relationship and assistance programme are the most effective means available to us for dissuading Pakistan from acquiring nuclear explosive devices."

Reagan's assessment comes despite US intelligence reports that Pakistan has been producing weapons-grade enriched uranium.

White House acceptance would clear the way for the disbursement of \$480 million in US military and economic assistance to Pakistan this fiscal year.

"We have serious concerns about Pakistan's unsafeguarded nuclear programme and the threat of nuclear proliferation in South Asia," said State Department spokesman Charles Redman.

Sources in the administration said the State Department had concluded that Pakistan likely played a role in an attempt to smuggle two restricted metals out of the United States last year.

But the sources said the department was recommending that Reagan invoke a provision of a 1985 law sponsored by Representative Stephen Solarz allowing the government to continue aid if it is in US national security interest.

Redman told reporters "no final decision has been made by the President on the applicability of Solarz amendment."

Under that measure, Congress suspended new aid to Pakistan last September out of concern over its programme to develop nuclear weapons. In December, however, lawmakers voted for \$480 million in new economic and military aid, \$60 million less than the Reagan administration requested.

Certificate
The administration also sent Congress a legally required certification that Pakistan did not have a nuclear bomb.

The new State Department recommendation was consistent with that ruling. The White House was expected to relay it to Congress, perhaps before it reconvenes on Jan 25, said congressional and administration sources.

Administration officials have argued that cutting all aid might force Pakistan to turn to nuclear weapons for defence.

They also worry that cutting of aid might prompt Pakistan to stop channeling an estimated \$500 million in covert US aid to Afghan Mujahideen.

Disclosure of the recommendation came as private task force

urged the administration to withhold at least some advanced conventional weapons from Pakistan "to enhance the credibility of US nonproliferation efforts in the region in light of Pakistan's recent nuclear activities."

Meanwhile, West German Environment Minister Klaus Toepfer said today he had asked for full-scale probe into "dreadful suspicions" that weapons-grade nuclear material may have been shipped illegally to Pakistan and Libya by a West German company.

The federal Parliament met in an emergency session to discuss revelations that were quickly developing into a major scandal after a night of frantic meetings to assess the impact from the growing affair.

"In light of the dreadful suspicions that fissile material could have been shipped to Pakistan or Libya through Germany, in addition to the ongoing prosecutive probe, I have put all means at my disposition to bring the facts to light," Toepfer told a stormy session of Parliament.

Policy reversal by Chirac

France readmits Iranians

PARIS, Jan 15, (Reuters): Fifteen expelled Iranian and Turkish refugees returned to France and Spain last night in what commentators said was a humiliating policy reversal by conservative Prime Minister Jacques Chirac.

The climbdown came barely three days before Chirac is expected to announce he will stand candidate in presidential elections in France due in April.

The 15 refugees, who had all been granted political asylum before they were expelled to Gabon on Dec 8, were allowed to return to Western Europe for humanitarian reasons, the French Interior Ministry said in a statement.

Many of the refugees had been on hunger strike since their expulsion. The seven who arrived in Paris were taken to hospital for treatment after landing.

Chirac's government said the refugees had been plotting terrorist acts, but sympathisers said they were pawns in an "ugly deal" between Paris and the Iranian government.

Deals
Opposition socialists said the expulsions were part of complex deals with Tehran to try to free French hostages held in Lebanon. Socialist Party leader Lionel Jospin said: "Chirac has been forced to howl to the pressure of opinion."

Socialists and human rights activists said Chirac caved in to domestic and international outrage over the expulsions and the hunger strikes by the refugees' families and sympathisers in Paris, London and Washington.

Under an agreement between Paris and officials of the People's Mujahedin organisation, the 15 were allowed to return on condition they ceased any militant activities.

The Spanish government agreed to accept eight of the refugees — five Iranians and three Turks — and the rest arrived later yesterday in Paris, smuggled in to a military base away from the glare of publicity.

Chirac, interviewed on French Television, said he would announce his plans for standing for President tomorrow. Party sources say he will definitely announce he is running.

Commentators said Chirac, trailing coalition partner Raymond Barre and President Francois Mitterrand in opinion polls ahead of the April poll, was losing support because of his tough line on the refugees.

Chirac said the Iranian dissidents in Paris had agreed to halt their protests in France against Tehran in return for his agreement to allow the 15 to return.

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Pakistan raps India over Soviet submarine

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15, (Reuters): Pakistan has denounced the acquisition of a Soviet nuclear-powered submarine by its giant rival India and accused Moscow of irresponsibility and disregarding peace in the region.

A foreign ministry spokesman in Islamabad charged that India was recklessly expanding its military power in a way that could only make other states in the region feel insecure.

"India's acquisition of nuclear submarines highlights its headlong militarisation manifest already in its amassing of missiles, aircraft, artillery, tanks and warships," the Pakistani spokesman said.

He also denied Indian reports that the two countries, which have fought three wars since independence in 1947, had clashed on Sunday and Monday in the disputed Himalayan state of Kashmir.

"At a minimum (it is) a gross exaggeration, if not totally false," he said.

India became the second nation in Asia after China to have nuclear-powered submarines on Jan 5 when the Soviet Union handed one over under a lease agreement.

Indian Television has said the vessel would be used for training, but few other details have been made public. The weekly magazine India Today said to a recent issue that New Delhi could lease four to six nuclear submarines.

Groom quits over dowry

NEW DELHI, Jan 15, (Reuters): An Indian groom left his bride-to-be standing with the priest because her family failed to come up with a dowry, police said today.

Ajit Singh ran away from the procession taking him to his wedding in New Delhi yesterday when the bride's father failed to meet a last minute demand for the dowry.

The giving of dowries, while outlawed, is still widespread in India.

Sikhs kill family of eight

AMRITSAR, Jan 15, (AP): Sikh extremists gunned down 10 people today, including eight members of a family and a police inspector, police said.

Two Sikh killings on a motor scooter came to the residence of inspector Prem Nath in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar early today and killed him and his wife, Nirmla, with AK-47 assault rifles, said Ishar Alam, the police chief.

Nath, 47, was a Hindu. A teapot and cups lay scattered in a pool of blood at the residence near a busy city square.

Khalistan Commando Force, an underground terrorist organization, claimed responsibility for the killings in a note left at the scene, he said. The extremists are fighting for a separate homeland in the Punjab, which they envision would be called Khalistan.

In another attack, an unknown number of terrorists came to house of Shankar Singh in Gurdaspur district last night and opened fire, said Chaman Lal, a deputy inspector general of police.

Lal said that nine assailants stormed the house of Singh and opened fire. Singh and seven others, including his three sons and a daughter, were killed.

The latest killings raised the death toll to at least 61 in Punjab this year in attacks blamed on Sikh extremists. More than 1,000 people died last year in the Sikh-dominated northern state.

Taiwan prepares for Chiang funeral

TAIPEI, Jan 15, (Reuters): Taiwan began preparations today for a huge state funeral for President Chiang Kai-shek as the stock market rebounded strongly in the first sign of confidence in the new administration.

Leaders of the ruling Nationalist Party and government met to work out details of the funeral, expected to be the island's biggest since Chiang's father, China's wartime leader General Chiang Kai-shek, died in 1975, party sources said.

But they said the funeral was not expected to be held in the next two weeks as the nation continued to mourn Chiang, who died of a heart attack on Wednesday.

The government has declared a month of national mourning during which all demonstrations have been banned. Leave for the military and police has been cancelled.

Thousands of mourners continued to throng the Veterans' General Hospital in a Taipei suburb to pay their last respects to the man who had been the chief architect of Taiwan's "economic miracle."

Officials wearing black armbands queued in front of the hospital. Ordinary citizens and retired soldiers, carrying Chiang's portraits, wept and waited in public.

Democracy
"We believe the time has come for us to move into high gear to a more advanced stage of constitutional democracy," Ma Ying-jeou, deputy secretary-general of the Nationalist Party, told reporters.

The Nationalist government led by World War II leader Chiang Kai-shek, Chiang Ching-kuo's father, moved to Taiwan in 1949, after losing a civil war to the communists on the Chinese mainland, and extended authoritarian rule over the island, which prospered economically.

150,000 Iranian pilgrims

NICOSIA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Iran will send 150,000 to the yearly pilgrimage to 1988, Tehran Radio said on Thursday.

The radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Iraq's top Haj (pilgrimage) official Mehdi Karubi as saying Iranian pilgrims would hold demonstrations in Islam's holiest cities of Makkah and Medina "in a more resolute and determined manner than before."

More than 400 people were killed last July 31 in violent clashes between Saudi security forces and mainly Iranian pilgrims during an Iranian demonstration in Makkah led by Karubi. Most of the victims were Iranian.

Bangladesh unrest loss exaggerated
DHAKA, Jan 15, (AP): An independent survey published Thursday disputed government figures on how much money months of political unrest has cost the country in decreased production.

Political unrest caused a loss of 8.5 billion takas (\$258 million) in decreased production in November and December, the survey said. It said government estimates of a daily loss of \$50 million were exaggerated.

The loss of production was due to intermittent general strikes called by opposition parties demanding the ouster of President Hossein Mohammad Ershad, said the survey, conducted by the Metropolitan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, a local business forum.

The group said the country lost 500 million takas (\$15.15) on each day of strike.

In addition to political unrest, which has mainly hurt industry, floods also have damaged the economy, the survey said.

The country's primarily agrarian economy lost 3.16 per cent of its Gross National Product due to floods last year.

The cumulative effect of the floods and the unrest mean the economy will lose 4.86 per cent of its Gross National Product in 1987, the business group said.



Military drummer of the Indian Army playing a patriotic song for the Army Day parade in New Delhi. (Reuter wirephoto)

Rebels refuse to share power with Kabul left

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15, (Reuters): Afghan Mujahideen said on Thursday they would not share power with communists, despite reported remarks by Pakistani leaders that a future interim government should include members of the current Kabul administration.

The New York Times quoted President Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo as saying in separate interviews that only a compromise involving all warring parties could guarantee an end to the nine-year-old guerrilla war.

Coalition
This meant some members of the pro-Soviet government, through not necessarily President Najibullah, should be included in an administration to take over after a Soviet troop withdrawal, they were quoted as saying.

Questioned about the Pakistani officials' remarks, representatives of three of the seven Pakistan-based resistance reiterated their refusal to share power with their enemies.

"We cannot accept a coalition government," was the reaction of alliance chairman Yousuf Khalis, according to a spokesman for his Hezb-e-Islami party. Khalis did not elaborate.

"Newspaper interviews are not official positions, we don't consider this an official position," Najibullah Lafraie, political officer for Jamiat-e-Islami, said.

"As far as a coalition government with communists is concerned, this is rejected by the Mujahideen," he said.

Najibullah Mojaddidi, general secretary of Jabbha-e-Nijat-Milli, said he had not seen the text of Zia and Junejo's reported remarks and any reaction would have to come from the seven-party alliance as a whole.

But the Mujahideen had always rejected the idea of communists sharing in a post-Soviet administration.

"Any individual who has participated with the puppet is considered by us a pro-Soviet who has helped the Soviet presence in Afghanistan," he said. "They are included in the same category."

Indians punished for rape

JAFFNA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Four Indian soldiers have been discharged and sentenced to one year in prison after conviction for rape in Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna peninsula, an Indian officer said on Thursday.

The soldiers were among 35,000 Indian troops posted to the north and east to enforce an Indo-Sri Lankan accord last year to end a Tamil separatist revolt.

Brigadier R.L.S. Kahlon, Jaffna town commander, said the four were brought before a court martial within 96 hours of the filing of charges and punished

under Indian Army regulations. This was the first time an Indian official had admitted that accusations of rape made by residents against Indian troops, who started landing in Sri Lanka on July 30, had been found to be true.

Residents also have complained about molestation of women, thefts and harassment. Kahlon told a group of journalists who were taken on a conducted tour of Jaffna.

He said all complaints were investigated and most were found to be incorrect.

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KUWAIT... GULF

Mubarak arrives in Baghdad after ending Gulf tour

Egypt's Arab image boosted

BAGHDAD, Jan 15, (Agencies): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today arrived in Baghdad from Saudi Arabia on a visit to Iraq within the framework of his current Gulf tour.

Mubarak was received by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and other ranking Iraqi officials. The Egyptian leader arrived here from Saudi Arabia where he performed the Omra.

Mubarak ended a six-nation Gulf tour on Thursday and headed for Saudi Arabia to visit the holy places in Makkah. The President, who started his Gulf swing in Saudi Arabia last Saturday in talks with King Fahd, left after meeting Sultan Qaboos Bin Said of Oman.

Egyptian officials said the two leaders discussed the Gulf war, one of the main topics covered in all the countries he visited. His itinerary included Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates as well as Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Commitment
The tour has won Mubarak both prestige and prospects of aid for his debt-ridden country, diplomats said.

For its part, Cairo restated its commitment to the security of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states in case of any Iranian attack.

Mubarak's visit was his first since nine Arab states resumed diplomatic ties with Egypt in November after eight years of ostracism.

Regional Arab banks were now reconsidering their decision



Hosni Mubarak

to close credit lines to Egypt, bankers said. Arab diplomats said they expected investment in Egyptian development projects to soar.

Troops
On the military front, Mubarak's political aide Osama Baz said in Oman the GCC states did not ask for Egyptian troops.

But sources close to the President said he reviewed contingency plans in case of a direct Iranian threat spilling over from Tehran's war with Iraq.

Egypt is reluctant to send troops to the region in case Iran sees this as a provocation. But Mubarak told Gulf leaders he would not hesitate to implement a 1950 defence pact if need be.

When asked what measures he would take in case of a direct Iranian attack of any of the GCC states, Mubarak, a former Air

Force chief, said: "I cannot discuss these matters with the press."

Arms

Most Arab states, including all the GCC countries except Oman, severed links with Egypt when it signed its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Nine states restored relations last November after an Arab league summit freed them to act individually.

Mubarak offered Egyptian-made arms to any Arab state seeking to defend itself. Diplomats said Kuwait, the target of occasional Iranian missile attacks, would get some weapons and military experts.

Egypt already supplies Iraq with about a billion dollars worth of arms a year and is interested in new Gulf markets to boost production.

Peace conference
Despite Mubarak's calls for Arab unity against Iran, he has repeatedly urged Tehran to make peace.

The President also discussed efforts to convene an international, UN-brokered, peace conference on the Middle East. He demanded a united Arab stand to convince Washington to pressure Israel into accepting such a meeting.

"Once the Arabs act wisely and agree on representation at the international conference, Israel will be left alone," Mubarak told Qatar Television.

He wants a common Arab position before going to Washington later this month.



● The Chairman and Director-General of Kuwait News Agency (Kuna), Bargas Al Barges (centre) meeting a delegation of students of the Jordanian University. The head of the delegation, Dr Hani Abdul Rahman, presented Al Barges with the flag of the university and a number of its publications.

Subscribers making plenty of phone calls will be charged

A KUWAITI daily, quoting a Kuwait Ministry of Communications spokesman, said that additional charges would be imposed on telephone subscribers who make more than an average number of internal calls, which would apply to both office and home subscribers.

Meanwhile, Undersecretary of Kuwait's Communications Ministry, Abdul Aziz Al Aynub, said that the ministry's project to modernise telephone networks in the country is in its final stages, but added that there was still work being done to transfer above-ground cables to underground networks and to lay lines in new areas.

Al Aynub said the ministry fines contractors who destroy telephone cables during their work, adding that charges will also be made to cover the actual cost of the destroyed materials as well as the fine.

Video Tex

The undersecretary said the telephone communication systems among GCC states are now linked through underwater cables and satellites and that unified tariffs for calls made between GCC countries had been in effect for some time.

A new project for an information system, Video Tex, has started and the ministry has installed all necessary computer equipment for the system, Al Aynub said, adding that the ministry has allocated 30 per cent of the income from this system to future development.

The ministry's postal service is now completely developed and the postal code system and automatic letter sorting implemented with improved results, he said, with the exception of mail addressed to the Sabab Al Salem and Bayan areas, which is still being organised.

Charges for cleaning services under study

THE Director General of Kuwait Municipality Rasheed Abdullah Al Othman said the legal committee of the municipal affairs committee is preparing a study on the feasibility of charging for Municipality cleaning services. The proposed charges would not exceed KD1 per month for each residential unit, he said, adding that there would be different categories for defining these units.

The issue of fee collection is still under consideration, he said, adding that the Ministry of Electricity and Water had refused to include this fee on their bills. He said the Municipality hoped to reach a decision soon about fee collection which would involve one of the government departments or ministries in order to avoid the high administrative cost of the process.

Directory of scientists

DR Yusuf Saadah, the head of the human resources development unit at Kuwait's Educational Research Centre, said the unit is preparing a directory of names of those involved in scientific experiments and development plans in various countries.

In an interview with the Kuwait News Agency Dr Saadah said the aim of the directory is to provide human resources for scientific and educational research and the development of cultural, social and economic planning.

The project is designed to also help officials to select systems which experience has proven efficient and effective, he said, and will be updated every three to four years.

Senator calls for more US-Soviet cooperation

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (Kuna): A US Senator, touring the Gulf, is calling for expanded cooperation between the US and Soviet Union in protecting the Gulf region and ending the Iran-Iraq war, press reports here quoted him yesterday as saying.

Speaking to American reporters, Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania said that the Reagan-Gorbachev summit opens new possibilities for joint US-Soviet peace efforts in the Gulf.

Specter also disclosed that for the first time the US responded on Jan 5 to a Soviet request to hunt a mine in Gulf waters showing rare cooperation between the two superpowers in the Gulf waters.

The US responded by sending two helicopters in response to a Soviet message giving the location of a suspected mine. The Russians eventually blew up the mine.

Specter said a Soviet minesweeper escorting a merchant ship passed the suspected mine but sailed on until the ship was out of danger. When the Soviet minesweeper returned to search for the mine, it radioed the battle cruiser Richmond Turner for help.

The Turner then radioed an accompanying American warship.

65,000 crossed borders for spring holiday

A TOTAL of 65,000 people travelled abroad for the spring holidays through land routes alone, a Kuwaiti daily reported, adding that a comparable number was expected to have left the country by air.

The daily said that this number represented people travelling through Abdali, Salami and Nuwaiseeb border crossings last week.

ship to launch its Lamps-3 surveillance helicopter to aid in the search, accompanied by a second helicopter gunship to provide protection.

In his comments, Specter, a member of the Senate Appropriations and Intelligence Committees, urged the Soviets to support a US-sponsored arms embargo against Iran. Despite hints last month of a change in positions, Soviet officials recently have again suggested that an arms embargo is premature.

The senator also suggested that a Soviet-proposed United Nations peacekeeping naval force with US and Soviet participation 'might' effectively protect international shipping in the Gulf.

Unified civil defence law

A KUWAITI daily, quoting a well-informed source at Kuwait's Interior Ministry, said the deliberations were underway between Gulf Cooperation Council Interior Ministers, to reach a unified strategy on implementation of the civil defence law, following the system used in Kuwait.

The source said that eight specialised Kuwaiti officers working in this field have been selected to represent the country in the deliberations and to explain the system followed in Kuwait for civil defence activities.

The source added that a new department of National Security would be set up at the ministry following the completion of relevant studies.

Gel-like slime from Gulf catfish helps heal wounds

LOS ANGELES, Jan 15, (AP): Venomous Gulf catfish excrete a gel-like slime that dramatically speeds the healing of cuts and might spur development of new wound treatment for humans, a researcher says.

"If you put it on a wound, you can actually see the wound start to close over in the next two or three minutes," said Richard Criddle, a professor of biochemistry and biophysics at the University of California at Davis.

"I used it on me. It works great," he said on Wednesday. Criddle and Kuwait University biochemist J.M. Hassan spent part of the last five years catching and scraping the slime coating off arius bilineatus, a species of saltwater catfish that grows up to 3 feet long, sports venomous spines and scavenges the muddy bottom of the Gulf.

The scientists found that the slime contains antibiotics, a coagulant that helps close injured blood vessels, anti-inflammatory agents, and a chemical that directs production of a glue-like material that aids healing.

Their research started after they heard that Arab fishermen rub catfish on their wounds to quicken healing.

In a telephone interview from Davis, Criddle said he doubts the slime itself could be marketed for human use because of the difficulty in catching enough of the catfish and because the gel may contain undesirable substances.

But he said he is analysing the makeup of the slime in hopes of developing a similar substance that could be used on humans.

Secrets
Laboratory tests showed the slime reduced by up to two-thirds the amount of time needed for healing of cuts on mice, rats and

rabbits. Criddle said, adding that he used it once when he cut his hand during a fishing trip. He said Hassan successfully used it on himself about a dozen times.

The gel causes a brief stinging sensation when it is applied to cuts, Criddle said.

When wounded, the catfish secrete the slime from glands near the surface of their skin, Criddle said.

Criddle said the slime helps injured catfish avoid attracting predators.

"If they get injured, they heal very rapidly," he said. "You don't want to bleed in the sea. It draws the unfortunate attention of predators."

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Mideast peace conference

A KUWAITI daily opined on Thursday that the idea of an international peace conference on the Middle East is a "dead" one, indicating that the countries who brought it into being are not convinced with it.

Al Rai Al Aqm, in its editorial entitled "the international conference, a waste of time," said "despite our deep conviction of the futility of the idea, we seek the big powers to endorse it and encourage Israel to accept it."

The daily said that the hope for success for such a conference is "zero" because it is unlikely that the victim appeals an unjust verdict to the same judge who passed it. Loss is certain in both cases.

A possibility for a settlement is absolutely impossible in the near future, either through an international conference or any other proposal by the UN Security Council or the superpowers, it pointed out.

It said, "the international conference is one of the biggest political tragedies in the world," adding, "if years of contacts were needed to prepare for it, then its holding in case Israel agrees to it, will require five years and maybe more to implement the solution."

GULF PRESS

Israeli defiance of UN decision

UNITED Arab Emirates newspapers in their editorials on Thursday stressed that Israel's defiance of the international decisions demonstrate its colonialist nature in seeking to usurp Arab lands and expel their people.

Al Ithra newspaper of Abu Dhabi asked "what has the United Nations Security Council done to face the deliberate defiance of its resolutions and what steps does it plan to adopt to enforce respect for its decisions?"

The newspaper noted that the uprising in the occupied lands, which led to the council's resolution condemning the expulsion of Palestinians, will continue to have an effect on future moves by the council. The stone-throwing revolution which tied down the American veto will surely move the world public opinion against the expulsion operations.

The newspaper appealed for "united Arab support of the uprising facing the Zionist arrogance and to ensure its continuity and escalation, the only decisive reply to the enemy."

Al Bayan newspaper of Dubai said "the Israeli enemy has stopped the Security Council twice, once when it rejected the condemnation of repressive measures in occupied lands and in its refusal to cancel the decision to expel activists."

The newspaper added "Israel also insulted the council when it prevented the United Nations envoys from carrying out his mission or entering the Palestinian camps."

The newspaper also said "the Israeli continued defiance of the United Nations is proof of the hypocrisy of those who speak about human rights in relation to the alleged rights of Jews trying to immigrate to Israel while they support with arms and money, and even diplomatic actions, all illegitimate Israeli actions."

Plants distributed to campers

KUWAIT'S General Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources distributed hundreds of plants to campers at a number of camping areas on Wednesday.

Abdul Mohsen Al Galaf, the head of the authority's gardens section, said that over 2,000 plants had been given to campers in an effort to change desert camping sites to green areas. Campers were shown how to plant and care for the plants, which are a type generally grown in desert regions, he said, adding that the authority was pleased with the positive response of citizens in receiving the idea of greening the desert.

Al Galaf encouraged residents to check on the growth of trees they had planted, and said that if the idea of having campers plant trees and plants was widely accepted, the authority would repeat the distribution in coming years.

Drugs shortage solved

THE acting Undersecretary Ibrahim Al Mudaf of Kuwait's Health Ministry said the shortage of drugs at health centres and hospitals had been solved following an increase in the budget from KD14 million to 18 million.

Al Mudaf said that the dearth in drugs was the result of government's attempts to curb expenditures on medicines and failure to take hospital and health centre expansion into consideration. He added that the demand for drugs was continually increasing and that the whole drugs supply at the ministry had been exhausted prior to approval of the additional budget demands.

The acting undersecretary said that the increased budget enabled the ministry to import larger quantities of drugs without affecting the drugs in reserve for emergencies.

University results

KUWAIT... University will announce the results of the second-semester exams next week, said the dean of admission and registration, Dr Mustafa Marafi.

A total of 355 students, mostly Kuwaitis, had taken the examinations.

Commenting on admissions, Al Marafi, said seats have been reserved for students from GCC countries. Many GCC students have applied for seats in various faculties and they have been selected, he said. Seats are also reserved for Kuwaitis and children of military personnel, he added.

Enrolment has begun and several Kuwaitis have completed formalities. Acceptance will be mailed to each student, he added. Students will be given the chance to apply for the subject of his choice.

Computer-aided admissions are to be introduced next year. Staff are now being trained to use the new system, recently installed at the university.

29 accidents

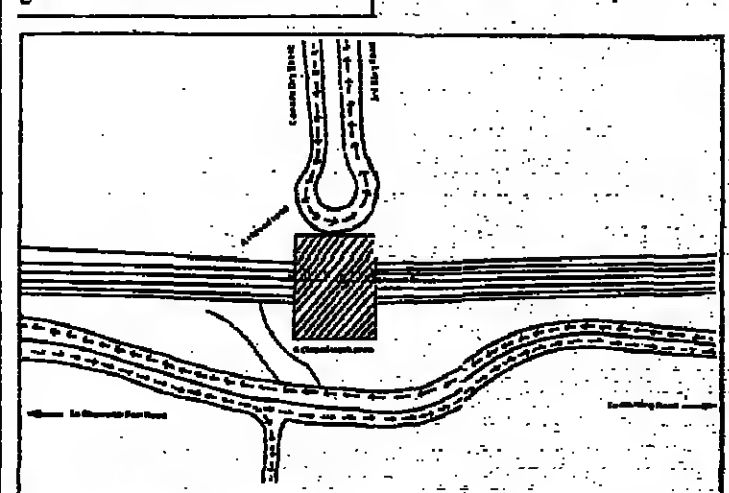
TWO men died in traffic accidents on Thursday.

There were 29 traffic accidents in Kuwait, with three taking place in the capital, three in Hawalli, five in Ahmadi and 18 in Jahra.


Road closed

A SOURCE at Kuwait's General Traffic Department announced that traffic from Shuwaikh Port to Ghazali Street will be detoured to Mohammed Ibn Al Qasim Street because of the closing of the intersection of Third Ring Road and Ghazali Street.

Traffic from Ghazali Street to Shuwaikh Port will be detoured to Fourth Ring Road and then Mohammed Ibn Al Qasim Street and then to the port.



The diagram shows areas that are closed to traffic.



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Tender documents can be purchased from the administration services dept. at KNPC Head Office from 18-1-1988

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOT life, but a good life, is to be chiefly valued —
Socrates, Greek Philosopher (about 470 BC — 399 BC).

Khomeini sides with radicals

By Martin Marri

NICOSIA. (AP) Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini, by affirming the absolute power of Islamic government, appears to have sided with radicals whose proposals for economic reform have been blocked by conservatives.

The 87-year-old patriarch recently ousted President Ali Khamenei, who has support among Iran's wealthy merchant class, of trying to limit the role of government, which he said was "an institution ordained by the Almighty and founded with absolute power."

Several Iranian leaders quickly expressed approval for Khomeini's statement.

The latest figure to join the fray, Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, has said that Khomeini's decree would strengthen the "executive arm" of government.

Musavi told Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, that Khomeini's statement "solves a lot of problems which the Islamic republic has confronted."

Blocked
The Prime Minister has been at the forefront of efforts to control soaring inflation, crack down on "profiteers" and redistribute land against resistance from the business community and some religious leaders.

Legislation on these issues has consistently been blocked by the 12 member Council of Guardians, which scrutinizes all legislation, on the grounds that Islamic laws on the sanctity of private property would be violated.

Despite opposition from the council and from Iran's wealthy merchants whose prices would be controlled, Khomeini last July gave the government special powers to enforce its campaign without having to go to the courts.

Price controls were imposed on 24 types of goods in an effort to control galloping inflation, estimated at more than 50 per cent.

Frustrated
Under Iran's theocratic constitution, all legislation passed by the Majlis, or Parliament, must be approved by the Council of Guardians, made up of religious experts.

Musavi has long been known as an advocate of strong economic measures to help the poor, but Khomeini's latest dictates have also drawn support from more moderate leaders.

Khomeini's designated successor, Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, has expressed little frustration with the council's actions.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted him as saying the council should consider the needs of the country and the realities of the revolution "in different periods."

progress was evident during the US-Soviet summit, they say. Until the Soviets hit the bullet, the full range of US support (including covert military aid) for the mujahideen will continue.

The next opportunity to measure Soviet intentions will be the expected February round of United Nations indirect talks between the Soviet-supported Afghan regime and Pakistan.

Sen. Gordon Humphrey (R) of New Hampshire, lashed out at the administration's handling of Afghanistan. Senator Humphrey, a longtime champion of the Afghan resistance, charged that the administration was not applying enough pressure on Moscow to withdraw its troops.

The US is not giving enough high-level attention to the Afghan problem, he said. Calling for a "manly" policy in "the face of genocide," Humphrey said he felt betrayed by the "gap between the rhetoric and the practice" of the administration on Afghanistan.

The senator's remarks — at a round table discussion sponsored by the Heritage Foundation, a conservative public policy research institute — seemed to reflect the more general souring of some conservatives on President Reagan's approach to the Soviets since the INF agreement was concluded.

Thus far this is academic, officials say, because Moscow has yet to move beyond enticing words to a firm and acceptable withdrawal plan. No substantial

Israeli Army bar reporters from entering occupied areas

By William B. Ries

JABALIA, occupied Gaza Strip. (UPI) A Palestinian driver threaded a white Peugeot through smoldering barricades blocking the deserted streets towards an intersection where an Israeli soldier ordered the car to stop.

The young soldier, gesturing with his automatic rifle, told the driver and four passengers to get out of the car and join several Arabs lined up on the sidewalk for an identity card check.

But the button-down shirts and notebooks of the three men in the back seat made it obvious that they did not live in Gaza, they were Western journalists trying to get into the Jabalia refugee camp where young Palestinians and Army troops had clashed savagely a day earlier.

"What are you doing here? The area is closed," one member of the army patrol said in halting English. "Go back to Jerusalem."

More and more the Army has prevented reporters from entering the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in the weeks since the violent anti-Israeli protests first erupted Dec. 9, according to reporters covering the unrest.

Difficult
"In the past few days an increasing amount of territory is being restricted and it is becoming more and more difficult to do our jobs," said Robert Slater, chairman of the Foreign Press Association in Israel.

"We are increasingly disturbed to hear that the military authorities are moving to close off the occupied territories from our coverage," he said.

Since Dec. 9, at least 35 Palestinians have been killed and hundreds wounded in clashes with Israeli soldiers.

Israel has detained nearly 2,000 Arabs and poured additional troops into the territories in an unsuccessful attempt to quell the rioting, which Palestinian leaders say has been fuelled by the spiraling death toll and 20 years of Israeli occupation.

Top Israeli leaders and the

Gagging journalists



on Israel, when everything is pictures of stone-throwing and burning of tyres, you could certainly receive a mistaken impression," he said.

Shamir has admitted that officials considered putting the territories off limits, but the idea was dropped.

In the past week, soldiers have barred journalists, photographers and television crews from many areas of Gaza that have

been declared military zones. Unlike the early days of the unrest, soldiers now have signed orders closing locations.

Beaten

Despite the closures, an Army spokesman said there has been no change in policy, adding it is up to commanders in the field to decide when an area is a military zone and off limits to the press.

Amir Weinberg, a photographer for Israel's biggest news-

paper, Yediot Ahronot, allegedly was beaten by soldiers, and he and his wife detained when they tried to follow armoured cars into Bani Suheila, where Bassam Khader Musadlam, 20, was shot dead during demonstrations.

An Army spokesman later said Weinberg had acted wildly.

Several reporters said they were not allowed through the Erez checkpoint, the main entrance to the 25-mile (40 km) long coast strip, a move that effectively closed the entire Gaza Strip, which is surrounded by the Mediterranean and barbed wire.

Israeli officials contended some of the violence is encouraged by the presence of reporters. Occasionally, a few reporters on foot in a refugee camp will draw dozens of youths, who turn the event into a spontaneous demonstration.

During a television interview, Pazner said an ABC cameraman was under investigation for allegedly paying children to set fires.

Fact

ABC Tel Aviv bureau chief Bill Seaman has denied the charge, saying the network has strict rules against such behaviour.

Reporters usually hire taxis with white Gaza license plates to travel in the occupied territory because youths immediately hurl stones at any vehicle with yellow Israeli plates.

When turned away from a military area, reporters frequently try to reach the sprawling refugee camps by back roads, and then on foot to get to demonstrations.

"The Gaza Strip is burning," said ABC cameraman Yossi Mula, who is accused of paying children to start fires. "We don't have to incite or burn. We don't have to do a thing. We film what's in the field."

"People in Israel know there are 'disorders', but this is far from being just 'disorders'," he told Israel Radio. There's no comparison between what is really happening and what is known inside Israel.

Tigers of Asia prey on movie, book pirates

By Ron Scherer

NEW YORK: Last Christmas, movie fans in Singapore bought pirated copies of "Top Gun," "Club Paradise," and "Crocodile Dundee." This Christmas, many of them watched "La Bamba," "Space Balls," and "Innerspace" — legally.

After years of allowing the pirating of American movies, books, and audio tapes, the "four tigers" of Asia — Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong — are yielding to pressure from the United States to honour and enforce American copyrights.

Japan, long a haven for pirates, conducted 33 raids of illicit businesses in the first six months of the year. And other Asian nations that still allow pirates to flourish are under increasing pressure to stop the practice.

Advances
This shift could mean millions of dollars in extra sales of US goods to countries that are running large trade surpluses with the US.

Already, American book publishers report that sales this year are up 400 per cent in Taiwan and Singapore. Sales of legitimate videotapes now make up 60 per cent of the Japanese market — a substantial improvement over past years. Illegal audio cassettes have been virtually cleared from the streets of Singapore, where three years ago such illegal purchases made up 85 per cent of the total market.

It is likely the report will find

that while losses are declining, trade abuses are continuing. For example, US publishers charge that book pirates in South Korea use forthcoming changes in Korea's laws as a marketing tool. "They told buyers to purchase illegal books before the text-books went up in price or were not available," reports Carol Risher, director of copyright and new technology at the Association of American Publishers.

Books
The publishers say they believe the pirates unloaded half of the two million books pirated annually, costing US companies \$15 million to \$20 million.

"We obtained a computer printout representing 980,000 copies of US pirated books, listed by author and publisher with the price in Korean won and how many copies were available," says Eric Smith, a Washington lawyer who specialises in international copyright law. Other Asian countries have picked up the illegal trade when their neighbours have stopped.

Piracy in South Korea has been endemic. Valentine of Arthur Young recalls that during a visit to Seoul he saw merchants who would sell "any designer label you wanted" into clothing or footwear. Fashion-conscious shoppers could buy counterfeit Cartier luggage, Rolex watches, and Pierre Cardin suits.

Still, other Asian countries have picked up the illegal trade when their neighbours have stopped. "Cleaning up Singapore has led to problems in Indonesia," complains Jason Berman,

executive director of the Recording Industry Association. The International Federation of Phonogram and Videogram Producers in London estimates 80 per cent of the cassettes bought in Thailand in 1986 were pirated, up from 55 per cent in '84. The organisation estimates piracy represents nearly the entire market in Indonesia and 87 per cent of the Malaysian business.

Sophisticated
The pirates go to extremes to protect their turf. The local licensee in Thailand for Warner Bros. received a bomb in the mail and had to install X-ray equipment.

"There is a heavy level of serious criminal involvement," says Molly Kellogg, antipiracy director at Warner Bros.

The pirates not only sell in the local markets but export movies as well. The usual route is through the Middle East and to Europe. "We've had recent US releases end up in Ireland with Chinese subtitles," Ms Kellogg says. As for audio tapes, Berman says his office frequently finds pirated tapes at US flea markets.

Filmed movies — usually action films — often are of low quality, since they are sometimes shot right off the screen. But the pirates are sophisticated marketers, often reshooting films once they can get a better copy. "I think they've taken marketing courses at UCLA," Kellogg complains.

In Taiwan, piracy has also become more sophisticated. The Taiwanese have set up about 1,000 "public performance cen-

tres" in the past eight months. The Taiwanese owners say they are providing "private booths," where individuals can invite their friends in to watch movies. But money changes hands, and the shops include viewing booths that can seat up to a dozen people at a time. Recently, industry executives say, a 120-seat viewing centre opened, showing pirated videotapes of first-run movies on a 200-inch video projection screen. "It's eroding the traditional cinema," complains William Nix, vice-president of antipiracy at the Motion Picture Association, "and we are very much up in arms over that."

To try to counter the pirates, the association has begun an antipiracy foundation that will include local lawyers, investigators with police backgrounds, and local distributors. They will work with the Taiwanese government to make sure the local laws are enforced.

Enforcement
Despite these problems, US businessmen are pleased to see some progress, especially in enforcement. In March, the Philippine government raided one major pirate, seizing 64,000 illicit tapes.

In Singapore, the government is prosecuting six cases a month. This is especially significant for the film business because 91 per cent of the 600,000 TV-set owners also have video recorders.

"Once we get the thugs ironed out," predicts Mr Smith, the Washington lawyer, Asia "could become the second-largest market in the world for intellectual property, it is very undeveloped."

The Christian Science Monitor.

Senate majority at stake in November polls

By Robert Green

WASHINGTON. (Reuters) The unexpected retirement of some prominent Democrats is giving the Republican Party hope that it can regain control of the US Senate in November's elections.

Senate Democrats, however, are adamant that they will still be in charge after the elections, which will choose President Reagan's successor and determine the political makeup of the Congress with which he must work.

Democrats control the 100-seat Senate 54 to 46 and the House of Representatives by 258 to 177. All 435 House seats are at stake in the elections along with 33 of the Senate posts.

The party in control of each chamber of Congress gets a majority on all committees, where much of the real work is done and decisions made. It also sets the schedule for bringing up bills.

Chance
The Democrats seem certain to keep a majority in the House, which they have controlled since 1954, but Republicans believe they have a solid shot at regain-

ing the Senate majority they lost in the 1986 mid-term ballot. "I think we have a terrific chance of taking the Senate," said Tom Mason of the Senate Republican campaign committee. "We've got some open seats we weren't expecting."

He was referring to retirements by senior Democrats John Stennis of Mississippi, Lawton Chiles of Florida and William Proxmire of Wisconsin. All probably would have been re-elected but Republicans now think they can win in those states.

But three Republicans also have said they will not run again and Democrats think they can take two of those seats, in Virginia and Washington.

"We're sure the Senate is going to stay Democratic," said Bob Chlopak of the Democratic Senate campaign committee.

He noted the Republicans would have to hold all their current seats, win the three where the Democratic senators are retiring and win another two seats from Democratic incumbents to take over.

Republicans would need only a net gain of four if they win the

presidential elections. The vice-president, elected as part of the President's ticket, is allowed to cast votes in the Senate to break deadlocks.

The outcome of the Senate fight could hinge on the presidential contest.

In 1980, Reagan's landslide triumph helped his party oust 12 incumbent Democrats to give Republicans control of the Senate for the first time in 26 years.

The Republicans kept control in the even bigger Reagan landslide of 1984, but Democrats regained the majority in the 1986 elections when the presidency was not at stake.

The Democrats now are more vulnerable because, of the 33 seats at stake, 18 are currently theirs and 15 are Republican.

At least 10 of the Democratic incumbents and six of the Republicans are expected to be re-elected without much trouble so the parties are concentrating on states where a switch is possible.

Chief Republican targets include New Jersey and New York, where US Attorney Rudolph Giuliani, well-known for prosecuting mob figures and

sending financier Ivan Boesky and other Wall Street figures to jail, may run against Daniel Moynihan.

Democrats are aiming at Republican seats in Nebraska, Nevada, Minnesota, Rhode Island, California and Connecticut.

Aiming

Chlopak said the Democrats had recruited a number of good candidates, among them Minnesota Attorney General Hubert Humphrey III, son of the late vice-president and Senator.

Assistant House Democratic leader Tony Coelho said he expected little change in that heavily Democratic chamber since incumbents have been winning 90 per cent of their races in recent elections.

Only 10 of the 435 House members have said they are not seeking re-election, including four running for the Senate, but several others are expected to retire.

Johanna Schneider, an aide to House minority leader Bob Michel, said Republicans hoped to gain about 21 seats but agreed that they could not win control of the House.

Siniora used to make headlines

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. (Reuters)

Hanna Siniora, detained on Thursday in an Israeli clampdown on Palestinian journalists, has made headlines before by urging a boycott of Israeli products and offering to become Jerusalem's first Arab mayor under Israeli rule.

Siniora, editor of the Al Fajr daily newspaper, was arrested hours before he was due to hold a news conference calling for Palestinian civil disobedience to protest against 20 years of Israeli occupation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. He was freed several hours later.

This month he urged Palestinians to boycott cigarettes and soft drinks in a drive he said could lead to a tax strike and a boycott of work in Israel by residents of the occupied areas.

"Gandhi started with salt. We are starting with cigarettes," Siniora, 50, told reporters, comparing his call to Mahatma Gandhi's civil disobedience campaign that led to India achieving independence from Britain in 1947.

Born in Jerusalem, Siniora studied pharmacy at Benares University in India after his expulsion from Lebanon in the early 1960s for political activity.

A Christian resident of East Jerusalem, who also runs a family pharmacy in the walled city, Siniora was chosen by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat as a prospective delegate to Arab-Israeli peace talks.



Siniora

In 1984, when Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein drew up a list of a dozen possible peace negotiators, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, then Israeli prime minister, rejected all except Siniora and Gaza lawyer Faez Al-Ahmad.

Palestinian activists said Siniora lost much of his support in the territories, however, when he announced last June that he was considering running against Israel's Teddy Kolek for mayor of occupied Jerusalem.

PLO supporters charged the move would legitimise Israel's sovereignty over East Jerusalem, which Israel captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war and annexed shortly afterwards.

A tall, bespectacled man with a moustache, Siniora was one of the first Palestinian nationalists to defy hardliners and openly declare moderate views toward the Jewish state.

He says a PLO-led Palestinian state should exist alongside Israel in the West Bank and Gaza, not in its place.

Siniora, who meets Arafat when he broad, has headed Al Fajr and its companion English-language weekly since 1974 when its editor, his cousin Jack Nasser, disappeared mysteriously.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1581 — Britain's Parliament takes stern measures against Roman Catholics.
- 1646 — Courtrai, Belgium, falls to French Army.
- 1666 — France, allied with Holland, declares war on England.
- 1761 — British takes Pondicherry after siege, making end of French dominion in India.
- 1778 — France recognises US independence.
- 1864 — Austria and Russia send ultimatum to Denmark for repeal of constitution calling for incorporation of Schleswig.
- 1906 — Algiers conference on Morocco opens.
- 1925 — Leon Trotsky is dismissed from chairmanship of Russia's revolutionary council.
- 1964 — Thirteen Arab nations, meeting in Cairo, agree to set up military command to strengthen Arab position on problems related to Israel.
- 1966 — Major General Aguiyi Ironsi takes over power in Nigeria after announcing that an attempted coup had been smashed.
- 1969 — Soviet cosmonauts achieve first linkup of two manned spacecrafts while in orbit around earth.
- 1973 — United States and South Vietnam declare ceasefire in Vietnam war in hopes of full peace pact.
- 1979 — Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi flees Iran after new government is approved in Parliament.
- 1987 — Hu Yaobang resigns as head of China's Communist Party, accepting blame for policy mistakes stemming from student turmoil.

EVENTS

TV CORNER

Pick of the Week

- **The Long Hot Summer:** Sunday's new best-seller promises to be an interesting feature about life in America. This story revolves around a rich and influential man who employs a stranger.
- **Spitting Image, Fridays at 7.30 pm:** despite being an outdated earlier series, it makes interesting viewing, poking fun at the way things are today—from politics to society.
- **Airwolf II (Fridays, at 6.30 pm):** carries on from the first series after Dominic Santini is

killed and Stringfellow Hawke is critically wounded. The new team features St John Hawke, Stringfellow's brother who inherits Airwolf's legacy and power; Jo Santini, Dominic's niece, and Major Mike Rivers, a pilot and a quick-witted rebel who knows how to make the system work. Strange Power (Wednesdays, 9.30 pm) a 30-minute series about the paranormal phenomenon, focussing on unexplained events. In this week's episode, ESP, extra sensory powers, are examined.

KTV I weekly highlights

- SUNDAY**
- 4.25 **Nooruddin Zanki:** new historical serial, featuring Laila Taher, Ali Hassan, Sheza Salem, Laila Fawzi, Imaan Toqi.
 - 5.30 **Al Manahat:** a 30-minute educational show for children, with Amal Dabbas, Tayseer Attia, Rabe'e Shihab.
 - 10.50 **Television:** is tonight's late variety show, presented by Fawzia Abbasi.
- MONDAY**
- 3.30 **Al Bahas Al Mofli:** new cartoon serial.
 - 5.30 **Mama Anisa and Children:** a weekly show for young viewers.
 - 7.35 **Quran and Science:** part 6, prepared and presented by Dr Ahmad Shawk Ibrahim.
 - 10.50 **Daerat Al Ahlath (Circle of Events):**
- TUESDAY**
- 6.00 **Fi Khidmat Al Jumhour:** a local programme on health care.
 - 7.35 **Al Quds: 20 years On:** part three of programme on Jerusalem—it traces the developments from 1967 to the present times.
 - 10.30 **Safat Min Dharat Al Kuwait:** Pages from the History of Kuwait.
 - 10.35 **Photographic:** new 15-part daily serial; 50 minutes, Abdullah Ghaith, Madina Hamdi, Jamil Ratah, Mohammad Rida and Fifiyan star in this serial about a man who is framed by his friend. After being released from prison, the man plans to take revenge.
- WEDNESDAY**
- 5.15 **Baini Al Ans Wa Al Yum:** Between Yesterday and Today, is a new local programme for children dealing with progress in various fields. Children between the ages of 11 and 14 present the show.
 - 10.50 **Ayyam Aatibah:** last episode of this variety show featuring Samir Ghanim, Shirin, Imad



Walid Tawfiq

- Abdul Halim, Walid Tawfiq, Marwan Adham, Marylyn Tabar, Dalida Rahma.**
- 12.00 The Equaliser:** featuring Edward Woodward.
- THURSDAY**
- 10.00 **am Fi Ribah Tariya:** An educational programme presented by Jassim Ghareib on education at public schools, teaching methods, sports, arts and music.
 - 12.00 **noon Ma Da'a Anhamia Mia Akhar Jahan:** weekly serial starring Sheza Salem, Khalil Al Rifai, Mohammad Hussein Abdul Rahim, Sana Abdul Rahman, Adhish ush ushah, made by television.
 - 4.15 **The Persuaders:** featuring Roger Moore.
 - 5.25 **Maktabah Ala'a and Hana:** part 3 of children's serial, starring Asraf Abdul Ghafoor.
 - 10.30 **Adadaya:** Arabic feature film.
- FRIDAY**
- 10.20 **Hikayat Min Al Alam:** Stories from the World.
 - 11.00 **Lecture on Islam:** by Dr Ahmad Abu Al Nur.
 - 04.00 **Falah Fauq Al Shajrah:** Arabic play, featuring Ahmad Bader, Mim Jamal and Hassan Mustafa.
 - 11.00 **Qubah Eina Al Ma'arafi:** part 3 featuring Ahmad Al Saleh, Maryam Al Saleh, Huda Hussein, Ibrahim Al Hahri. A play about the family and its role in two Gulf societies—Kuwait and Bahrain.



Spitting Image pokes fun at world leaders, Fridays at 7.30 pm.

This week on KTV 2

- SUNDAY**
- 6.00 **Holy Quran**
 - 6.10 **Long Ranger:** cartoons
 - 6.30 **Butterfly Island:** "There is a Tide." A sheep, in an office block, wrecks havoc.
 - 7.00 **Understanding Islam:** a weekly local show on Islam.
 - 7.30 **The Wacky World of Sports:** a light hearted look at sporting events.
 - 8.00 **News in English**
 - 8.40 **Hot Shots:** "Blue Birds Inn" Amanda Reed (Dorothy Parke) and Jason West (Booth Savage) investigate the death of a rich woman.
 - 9.30 **Foley Square:** "Personals." Alex places an ad in the personal columns of a newspaper. Comedy.
 - 10.00 **Q.E.D.:** "Mark, His Sister and the Scientists." Scientists study hereditary traits and its relationship with disease.
 - 10.30 **Best-Seller:** "The Long Hot Summer." A stranger comes to town and is employed by a wealthy person.
 - 12.00 **News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown**
- MONDAY**
- 6.00 **Holy Quran**
 - 6.10 **Yogis Treasure Hunt:** cartoons
 - 6.30 **The Animal Express:** a look at baboons.
 - 7.00 **Roving Report:** weekly roundup of world news, presented by KTV.
 - 7.30 **Chintz:** Kate Carter goes shopping in a supermarket.
 - 8.00 **News in English**
 - 8.40 **The Law and Harry MacGraw:** "Rappaport is Back in Town." A woman is murdered in unknown circumstances.
 - 9.30 **Horizon:** BBC documentary. "The Mogna Chamber." How natural phenomenon occur.
 - 10.30 **Mini-Series:** "A Year in the Life." Gardner gets back into the routine and contemplates remarriage.
 - 12.00 **News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown**
- TUESDAY**
- 6.00 **Holy Quran**
 - 6.10 **Rainbow Bright:** Cartoons.
 - 6.30 **Side Kicks:** "The Cousin Who Fell To Earth." Arnie's cousin comes to the US and wants to join the police force.
 - 7.00 **Beyond 2000:** a look at
- the latest advances in science and technology. Tonight, paracutolog, turtle farming, chess and computer.
- 8.00 **News in English**
- 8.40 **You and the Law:** a local programme
- 8.50 **Heart of the City:** "Of Dogs and Car Burglars." A series of burglaries take place in the neighbourhood; the police investigate.
- 9.40 **Tracy Ulman Show:** Comedy.
- 10.10 **Cine Club:** to be announced.
- 12.00 **News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown**
- WEDNESDAY**
- 6.00 **Holy Quran**
 - 6.10 **The Get Along Gang:** cartoons
 - 6.30 **Micro at Work:** "Sorting Things Out." Part 2. A look at computerised mail sorting systems.
 - 6.50 **The Living Isles:** "Beneath the Greenwood." The evolution of forests after the ice age.
 - 7.30 **Growing Pains:** "Fast Times at Dewey High." Matt finds a new girlfriend.
 - 8.00 **News in English**
 - 8.40 **Buck James:** Dennis Weaver plays the title role of Buck, who operates best in life-or-death situations.
 - 9.30 **The World of Strange Power:** "From Mind to Mind." ESP—extra sensory power—is tonight's subject in this series that deals with paranormal phenomenon.
 - 10.00 **Perfect Strangers:** "The Rent Strike." Larry and Balki force the landlord to see their point of view.
 - 10.30 **Falcon Crest:** "Body and Soul." Maggie looks for her son, Kevin.
 - 12.00 **News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown**
- THURSDAY**
- 3.00 **Holy Quran**
 - 3.10 **Sports Studio:** Big League Soccer, American basketball and sports magazine
 - 6.00 **Centurions:** "Battle Beneath the Sea."
 - 6.30 **The Mickey Mouse Club:** friendship is the theme of this week's episode.
 - 7.00 **Rego to Riches:** "Patty's Mom." Millionaire Nick Foley (Joseph Bologna) adopted daughter, Patty, goes to live with her real mother.
 - 8.00 **News in English**
 - 8.40 **Max Headroom:** "Academy." A small TV network is accused of disrupting services.
 - 9.30 **Bill Cosby Show:** "Golden Anniversary." The children plan a surprise party for Mum and Dad on their marriage anniversary.
 - 10.00 **Paul Daniels Magic Show**
 - 10.30 **Late Night Movie:** "Odessa File." Starring Jon Voight, Maximilian Schell, Maury Tamm. Frederick Forsyth's novel about an earnest German journalist who stumbles upon the whereabouts of a Nazi war criminal and risks his life to get him. Moderately successful in transition to screen. Duration: 128 minutes.
 - 12.00 **News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown**
- FRIDAY**
- 3.00 **Holy Quran**
 - 3.10 **Sports Studio:** roundup of world and local sporting events.
 - 6.00 **She-Ra—Princess of Power:** "The Prisoners of Beast Island."
 - 6.30 **Airwolf:** "Black Jack." The Airwolf team is captured by gangsters in the Far East.
 - 7.30 **Spitting Image**
 - 8.00 **News in English**
 - 8.40 **Breaking Away**
 - 9.05 **Matlock:** "The Seduction." Matlock defends a football player, accused of killing his wife.
 - 9.30 **Weekend:** local programme
 - 10.00 **What A Country:** "California Dream." The students are asked to discuss a dream they would like fulfilled.
 - 10.30 **Crime Story:** "The Battle of Las Vegas." Lucas dominates the night club business in Las Vegas.
 - 11.30 **News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown**



Heart of the City, on Tuesday

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World Today via Satellite
- 3.30 Bahas Al Mofli: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 Nooruddin Zanki: historical serial. Starring Laila Taher, Ali Hassan, Sheza Salem, Laila Fawzi, Imaan Toqi.
- 5.45 Open University
- 6.50 News Summary
- 6.55 Noor Al Islam: "The Rights of Man." Presented by Ahmad Abdul Qadir. Guests are Dr. Ismael Ibrahim Badawi, Dr. Mustafa Mobammad Arjawi.
- 7.25 Nazrat Al Alam: "Quebec." Documentary
- 7.45 Security and Citizens
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.05 Al Anzar: daily serial
- 10.50 Dafatar Al Ayam: a talk show featuring Arab Poets and Writers.
- 12.00 News Summary
- 12.05 World News via Satellite
- 12.45 Holy Quran/Closedown
- 8.00 News in English



Bruce Willis and Cybil Shepherd in Moonlighting, at 8.40 pm on KTV 2.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Thundercats: cartoons for children.
- 6.30 Moon Jumper: "Good News and Bad." Nicole's friend is charged with disturbing peace in the neighbourhood.
- 7.00 Lorne Greene's New Wilderness: "Catch A Falling Star." A look at birds in Hungary.
- 7.30 Married with Children: "Bul I Didn't Shoot Deputy." Al buys a gun to protect himself from thieves in the neighbourhood.
- 8.40 Moonlighting: "Take A Left at the Alter." Davelocks for a man who did not turn up for his own wedding. Starring: Bruce Willis, Cybil Shepherd.
- 9.30 Silk Road: "Beyond Baghdad." The history of Mesopotamia.
- 10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Harris." The story of a farmer and his efforts to main family harmony.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- MORNING**
- 08.00 Opening
 - 08.02 Songs and Music
 - 08.30 NEWS
 - 08.40 Songs and music
 - 09.00 Cultural horizon
 - 09.30 Reggae rock
 - 10.00 Our Press Today
 - 10.05 Songs and music
 - 10.30 The years of pops
 - 11.00 Closedown
 - 13.30 NEWS on the F.M. service.
- EVENING**
- 21.00 Opening
 - 21.02 Kuwaiti on homeland
 - 21.20 Songs and music
 - 21.30 NEWS
 - 21.45 Point of view
 - 21.55 Songs and music
 - 22.00 Kuwait in a week
 - 22.15 Rock on
 - 22.45 Daily programme
 - 23.00 Surprisingly romantic
 - 23.30 Amazing facts
 - 24.00 Closedown
- BBC World Services**
- 0000 World News
 - 09 News about Britain
 - 15 Radio Newsworld
 - 30 Personal View
 - 45 Recording of the Week
 - 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
 - 30 They Sold a Million
 - 0200 World News
 - 09 Commentary
 - 15 Network UK
 - 30 People and Politics
 - 0300 World News
 - 09 News about Britain
 - 15 The World Today
 - 30 Business Matters
 - 0400 Newsworld
 - 30 Here's Humph!
 - 45 Reflections
 - 50 Financial News
 - 0500 World News
 - 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

- 30 Personal View
 - 45 The World Today
 - 0600 Newsworld
 - 30 Meridian
 - 0700 World News
 - 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
 - 30 From the Weeklies
 - 45 Network UK
 - 0800 World News
 - 09 Reflections
 - 15 A Jolly Good Show
 - 0900 World News
 - 09 British Press Review
 - 15 The World Today
 - 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup Financial
 - 45 Personal View
 - 1000 News Summary followed by Here's Humph!
 - 15 Letter from America
 - 30 People and Politics
 - 1100 World News
 - 09 News about Britain
 - 15 The A-Z of Hollywood
 - 00 Meridian
 - 1200 Radio Newsworld
 - 15 Multitrack 3
 - 45 Sports Roundup
 - 1300 World News
 - 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
 - 30 Network UK
 - 45 Good Books
 - 1400 News Summary followed by Album Time
 - 30 Sportsweek
 - 1500 Radio Newsworld
 - 15 Sportsweek
 - 1600 World News
 - 09 Commentary
 - 15 Sportsweek
 - 1700 News Summary followed by Sportsweek
 - 45 Sports Roundup
 - 1800 Newsworld
 - 30 Musical Masters of the Hour
 - 1900 News Summary 2nd Uncle
- 2000 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
 - 30 Meridian
 - 2100 News Summary followed by Health Matters
 - 15 A Mosaic Miscellany
 - 30 People and Politics
 - 2200 World News
 - 09 From Our Own Correspondent
 - 30 New Ideas
 - 40 Reflections
 - 45 Sports Roundup
 - 2300 World News
 - 09 Commentary
 - 15 Nature Notebook
 - 30 Anything Goes
- ALL TIMES GMT

FM Services

- 08.00-08.30 Easy listening
- 08.30-08.40 NEWS
- 08.40-10.00 Easy listening
- 10.00-13.00 Songs and music
- 13.00-13.30 Easy listening
- 13.30-14.00 NEWS
- 14.00-16.00 Easy listening
- 16.00-17.00 Easy listening
- 17.00-18.00 Spanish hour
- 18.00-21.00 Pops
- 21.30-21.45 NEWS
- 21.45-22.00 Pops
- 22.00-23.00 The Indian Classical
- 23.00-24.00 Easy listening
- 24.00-02.00 Instrumental listening

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus**
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
- Al Samiya**
The Living Daylight
Starring: Timothy Dalton
- Al Hamra**
Big Trouble in Little China
Starring: Kurt Russell, Kim Cattrall
- Drive-In**
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
- Al Firdous**
Mama (Hindi)
Starring: Dharmendra, Suchitra Sen
- Fababheel Open-Air**
Sbarbi (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Prada
- Al-Fababheel**
Sredharante Onnautiru Mirum (Malayalam)
Al Jahra Legal Eagles Granada Stalking Moon Salsabikhat Binaat Haaratna (Arabic) Al Jebb Ajanta (Malayalam) Ahmadi Drive-In Pray for Death

Five Pentax products for "Good Design."



Mr. D. Srinivasan, Marketing Manager of Boushahri Color Film Co., conveys that the Pentax SFX SLR and its nine interchangeable lenses, Pentax Zoom 70 Dole Camera, Pentax 7x20DCF II and 9x20 DCF II Binoculars are designated as "Good Design" products by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Japan. This is the first time live products from one company received the "Good Design" rank at one time.

PRAYERS

- Fajr 5.20 am
- Zuhr 11.58
- Asr 2.54 pm
- Maghreb 5.13
- Isha 6.34

REQUIRED

Commerce or Business Administration graduates. More than 5 years of full experience & knowledge of Kuwait's local market for building/construction materials and heavy equipment & parts. Indian or Pakistani with valid Kuwaiti driving license. Residence will be provided. Qualified & interested persons to pls call telephone Nos. 4837271/81

WANTED

An industrial company requires an experienced painter and assistant painter. Contact Mr. Jamal on tel. 4710036/4710056.

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

KLT-Auditions
Auditions for KLT's spring production The Crucible will be held today at 6 pm (Jan 16). There are several excellent roles. Anyone who is interested contact Tel: 3904025.

KLT-Comedy
The next production at KLT is a comedy Say Who You Are, directed by Steve Prescott. The gala performance is at 7 pm on Feb 1. Repeat performances are at 7.30 pm on Feb 2, 3, and 4. Tickets—K.D.3. For reservations call 3947651. Tickets must be collected from the Box Office two days before the performance date.

FILMS

British Council
Soft Targets, a feature film made with all the style and mastery of spy thrillers, will be shown tonight at 6.30 pm at the British Council. The film offers many pertinent and highly amusing insights to the East-West relationship. 90 minutes duration. Admission free but reservations must be made. Tel: 2515512.

SOCIAL

Japan Week
Jan 21: Kite flying competition, from 9 am to 1 pm, at the Science Club.

The following events will be held at the Hilton Hotel, Jan 22: children's exhibition, also featuring award winning art works by Kuwaiti children, on loan from the 1987 International Art Exhibition held in Yokohama. Open from 4 to 9 pm on Jan 22. From Jan 23 to 25, open from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 9 pm. Jan 23: seminar on Japanese education; 9 am to 1 pm; piano concert by Cairo-based pianist Junko Nakayama. Jan 24, Ikebana School, 11 am to 1 pm; martial arts and tea ceremony.

Seven films will be shown during the Week in the Hilton's Terrace room. All films are in Japanese with Arabic subtitles. Jan 22: 4 pm, Snow Fairy; 7 pm, the Makiko sisters. Jan 23, 4 pm, The Dragon Boy; 7 pm, Sanjuro, directed by Kurosawa. Jan 24, 4 pm, The Yama-shita Story (Judo story); 7 pm, The Longest Tunnel. Jan 25: Tora San's Forbidden Love, a comedy, 7 pm.

A seminar on Japanese business will be held on Feb 3 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Building from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm.

A token admission fee will be charged for some events. For further details, and confirmation of schedule, contact Tel: 2518155/2518440 or the Japanese Society—2533000 ext 1156.

Winter Serenade
The Kuwait Players Winter Serenade will be an evening to remember—haute cuisine,

music, sparkling and show stoppers, nostalgic ballads, moody blues and celebrated classics performed by Ross, Jenny, Lynley, Reem, Rosie and Carol. Directed by Peter Godfrey, Ros Langhorne and Glenis Muckle. It will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Meridien Hotel, on Feb 1, 2, and 3. Feb 4 Gala Dinner and show at 7.30 pm. For details ring 2656265; 5334695 or 5730641.

Ladies Tea Party
A saree fashion show will be held at the International Ladies Tea Party on Jan 20 (Wednesday) from 4.30 pm at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel. For details phone 5317390, 5386297.

Kuwait Caledonians
Kuwait Caledonians will hold Burns Night at 7.30 pm on Jan 28 at Messiah Beach Hotel. Guest speaker will be Bob Crempsey. For details phone 5610673.

Neelam Ghar
Neelam Ghar, a quiz show, will be held on Jan 22 at Carlton Tower Hotel. Admission by invitation only. For details phone Zulfigar or Anees—4814733; 2427388; 2445324 or Haroon Sayeed—5659336.

Sargam Music Show
Sargam, a local group, will hold a music show at Messiah Beach Hotel at 6.30 pm on Feb 3. A selection of popular Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi and English songs will be presented. Entertainment also includes fire dance, lava dance and a magic show. For details phone 3260455, 7 am to 3 pm.

Kuwait Singers
Rehearsals for the May concert will begin on Monday, Jan 18, 7.30 pm in the Sunshine School. Salwa, and will be held every Saturday and Monday. New members welcome; Tel: 5331413.

Konkani Drama
The new G.O.A. presents Freddy J. D'Costa's play Ut Goymkara on Jan 17 (3 pm). The troupe from Goa, including Jacinto Vaz, will perform at the New Indian Arts Circle hall in Finatree. Transport available from city. For reservations contact the Raja Stores.

Piano Concert
German pianist Wolfran Lorenzen will give a recital on Jan 19 (8 pm) in the Grand Ballroom of the Kuwait Hilton. He will play works by Ravel, Schumann, Liszt and Chopin. For further details contact the hotel.

HOTELS

At Messiah Beach
Al Mubarakiah features lunch and dinner, open 24 hours, children under 10 years free if accompanied by adults; offer limited to four. Sunday's is ladies day with 50 per cent discount for them.

At the SAS
Every Tuesday is Sahrat Al Khema—oriental night. Experience the exotic charm of the orient at the Tent, Arabian bazaar, perfumes, jewellery, clothes and rugs are some of the attractions. Dinner, live music and raffle prizes.

At the Ramada Al Salam
Daily lunch, chef's special, and dinner buffet at Coffee Shop; from Sunday to Friday, steak and seafood specialties featured for dinner at El Meressa Restaurant, open from 7 pm to 1.30 am. Family brunch on Fridays from 12 noon to 3 pm. Highlights will be: magician, painting, competition, games and ship's discovery tour.

At the Hilton
Speciality menu featured in Falaka, open for lunch and dinner; grilling menu also available in addition to desserts.

At the Continental
Gardenia offers food and beverage service on the Terrace. Daily dinner buffet and on Fridays, lunch buffet with charcoal grilled specialties. Darbar features daily lunch buffet and a la carte for dinner.

At the Sheraton
Dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the gypsy band Camerata. For lunch, Hunt Room offers a la carte. Trabouche on the roof is held every Sunday in Al Hamra Night Club. Music by the World Machine band. The Riccardo features a selection of Italian cuisine with music by the Moonlight Duo.

At the Maridien
Versailles is open daily for lunch and dinner, featuring continental cuisine, a selection of meats and seafood, charcoal grilling specialties. Al Fingan offers refreshments in an authentic oriental atmosphere.

MUSIC

Despite setbacks, she's still determined to be in the mainstream

Kim Wilde keeps hanging on

By Mike Hrano

MENTION the name Kim Wilde and it's sex rather than music that springs to most people's mind.

Certainly, she can sing—but it's her blonde hair and good looks that are instantly memorable, not her songs.

Now 26, the girl so often called the 'Bardot of pop' has learned to come to terms with such thinking.

For the nearest thing Britain has to Madonna is content to let others see her as they will, because she knows different.

Six years in the music business have taught her to make the most of her assets on her own terms. Blonde she may be, but dumb she is not.

"I'm a rounded sort of person with big lips, so dyeing my hair blonde was a disaster as far as people taking me seriously was concerned—or even just recognising me as an intelligent being," Kim says, recalling her teenage decision to follow in the footsteps of such famous peroxide as Marilyn Monroe and—more recently—Debbie Harry of Blondie.

"People in general have preconceived ideas, not just about women with blonde hair, who have large lips, look pretty and are famous—but about race, religion, vegetarians; everything.

"So I decided, not consciously, to put myself into an obvious bad just so that it was somewhere I could develop from. It's a kind of shield, a camouflage to sell.

"I know sex sells and I know blonde hair sells—so you know that you're on to a winner. In a way, it was quite calculated, but I also think it suits me."

More to the point, it helps Kim Wilde shift records and has done—bar one or two slack periods—ever since she first turned up in the British charts with her debut hit single, Kids in America, at the beginning of 1981.

She will be the first to admit that the story of her progress through the music industry has been patchy but while others



Kim Wilde: blonde she may be, dumb she is not

allowed similar career peaks and troughs to heat them, Wilde has soldiered on.

But she has always maintained enough support to continue—so it was perhaps quite fitting that the song which last year won her worldwide popularity should be called You Keep Me Hangin' On. An energetic version of the old Supremes' classic hit from the '60s, the record not only revived her appeal at home but built on it abroad, culminating in the pinnacle of her musical achievements so far: an American number one.

It was the second time in her career that Wilde had made a comeback. After her initial success has steadily dwindled, she employed a style agency—to the tune of around \$5,000 a week—to come up with a new image for her towards the end of 1984.

The resulting re-vamp, a cross between the look of Wonderwoman and an astronaut, could only push the accompanying single to number 29 in Britain and a follow-up—The Touch—failed to make the Top 40.

Wilde quickly realised that her carefully contrived appearance had been a mistake. "My record company saw me as strong, feminine and courageous," she recalls. "And I wanted to go out and whack people between the eyes with sheer entertainment."

"It started off as fun, but very quickly it became pretentious and boring. I hated having to maintain my image throughout Europe. In the end, I grew to hate the whole concept."

"Then I suddenly started reading stuff about me being finished and about failed comebacks—and it really upset me. At the same time I knew that what I was working on was very good and I had faith in it."

Wilde admits that despite these setbacks she had never considered giving up her career, but she was worried. "Everyone who makes records wonders if they'll ever make it to the top—or even back to the mainstream—at one time or another," she says.

"I decided to put all my energies into constructing new music and a new career—in-

stead of walling in self-doubt. You can't always be number one, and it didn't worry me if I was never a success again."

"Although British audiences didn't really know me during those difficult times, I had a strong following in Europe which kept me going. Now, at last, I've grown up."

"I know what I want my image to be. I know how I want to sound—and nobody can dictate to me any more. Things are more on my terms now than they've ever been."

Wilde lives alone in a North London flat, but still keeps in constant touch with her family. She has little option; her mother Joyce—a former Vernon-Grey manager, father Marty writes songs with her, and brother Ricky produces her records.

She is happy, however, to have finally shaken off the belief that she was little more than a pop puppet, shaped and manipulated by her father. And there is no longer any great mileage in the fact that dad was a '60s pop star—his hits included Rubber Ball and A Teenager in Love.

Kim Wilde, after all, is a pop star herself. "I didn't think for a minute that all this was going to happen," she says. "Success is nice, but I'm more concerned about the reasons why I came into this business in the first place."

"There are so many distractions in success, in money, but as long as I don't lose sight of the fact that I'm here only because I want to sing, because I love performing, then I'll be alright."

Underlying such single-mindedness, however, is a basic insecurity which most pop stars would never dare admit to. "It's not by luck that I am still here six years after my first hit," she explains. "I have worked really hard and so have everyone around me—but success is a strange thing."

"Part of me believes my success is going to be a long-term thing—and then there's another side that's sceptical about it lasting beyond the day after tomorrow."



Pepsi (right) and Shirlee: fragments of the Wham explosion.

High-orbit girls

By Stuart Wavell

THE pop duo Pepsi and Shirlee, fragments of the exploded group Wham!, are saving themselves. Kinetic energy, two hit singles, and a recent album have carried them on a trajectory they charted long before Andrew Ridgeley shrank from sight behind George Michael's supernova. But two years is a long time in high orbit and burn-out nags their dreams of fame and riches.

"We are saving ourselves until we play a real-life gig," said Shirlee Holliman, aged 25. "You can ruin yourself. You can do a lot of PAs (personal appearances) and get paid a lot of money. We have refused to do anything like that. People say 'We don't want to see them because we saw them in a nightclub.'"

As a result the two former hacking singers, neither of whom yet owns a house, have been nursing their resources. "People think we must be millionaires. If only they knew," signed Shirlee.

They paid half the cost of a video they had just shot amid much smoke, leaving them red-eyed yesterday. During the last one they called a doctor. At least they wore plastic dresses, a relief after rubber. Very hot, rubber dresses, said Shirlee.

Pioneers of the puff-bell dress, they found their creations copied by the big stores, so now they market their own. They agonise whether the tail is wagging the dog.

Pepsi, a Londoner whose

parents came from St Lucia, was a self-confessed "screamer" who outgrew her group in Harrow. Shirlee was a singing riding instructor who leapt at the chance of appearing on television with Michael and Ridgeley, acquaintances of long standing. Their own first hit single, Heartache, reached Number 2. Shortly they released All Right Now, the title track of their album.

Two years ago they accompanied Wham! to China. "There's not very much to say about China," pronounced Pepsi de Macque, aged 28. This was not true. "I personally don't want to go back," she went on. "It was a heavy experience. The young are dying to cut loose."

Shirlee: "They are experiencing the want and they are not allowed to have it."

Pepsi: "In our shows we saw people being carried out of the stadium for standing up and clapping. I don't think the tour was a good idea. I felt I had left those people in limbo."

This month they are doing a charity concert in Jordan at the behest of Princess Basma, King Hussein's sister. "Where's Jordan?" asked Shirlee.

Belinda captures UK spot

Harrison tops US charts

NEW YORK, (AP): George Harrison's hit Gnt My Mind Set On You soared to the top of the single pop records charts in the United States Wednesday, dumping George Michael's Faith from the number one spot.

Michael Jackson's The Way You Make Me Feel catapulted from seventh to second position on the Cash Box magazine chart after a Christmas-New Year recess, and Need You Tonight by Inx vaulted from tenth to third place.

The week's newcomers to the list included Hazy Shade Of Winter by The Bangles, grabbing 7th position, from 14th; Elton John's Candle in the Wind moving into 9th place from 17th; and Tell It to My Heart by Klyor Deayne, advancing one spot to number 10.

The Cash Box magazine Country-and-Western singles chart remained unchanged. Highway 101 was number one with Somewhere Tonight. Kenny Rogers was second with I Prefer the Moonlight, and Hank Williams Jr. third with Heaven Can't Be Found.

The ten top pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with previous positions in brackets:

1. (3) Got My Mind Set On You—George Harrison (Dark Horse-Warner Brothers).
2. (7) The Way You Make Me Feel—Michael Jackson (Epic).
3. (10) Need You Tonight—Inx (Atlantic).
4. (4) So Emotional—Whitney Houston (Arista).
5. (1) Faith—George Michael (Columbia).
6. (2) Is This Love—Whitesnake (Geffen).
7. (14) Hazy Shade Of Winter—The Bangles (Columbia).
8. (12) Candle in the Wind—Elton John (MCA).
9. (17) Could've Been—Tiffany (MCA).
10. (11) Tell It to My Heart—Klyor Deayne (Arista).

Country-Western
The ten top Country-Western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with previous positions in brackets (unchanged from previous listings):

1. (1) Somewhere Tonight—

Highway 101 (Warner Brothers).

2. (2) I Prefer the Moonlight—Kenny Rogers (RCA).

3. (3) Heaven Can't Be Found—Hank Williams Jr. (Warner Brothers-Curb).

4. (4) I Can't Get Close Enough—Exile (Epic).

5. (5) Do Ya—K.T. Oslin (RCA).

6. (6) One Friend—Dan Seals (Capitol).

7. (7) I'll Find A Note on Your Pillow—Billy Joe Royal (Atlantic America).

8. (8) She Couldn't Love Me Anymore—T. Graham Brown (Capitol).

9. (9) Goin' gone—Kathy Mattea (Mercury-Polygram).

10. (10) Where Do The Nights Go—Ronnie Milsap (RCA).

British charts
Belinda Carlisle captured the number one spot in the British pop singles record charts with Heaven Is a Place on Earth.

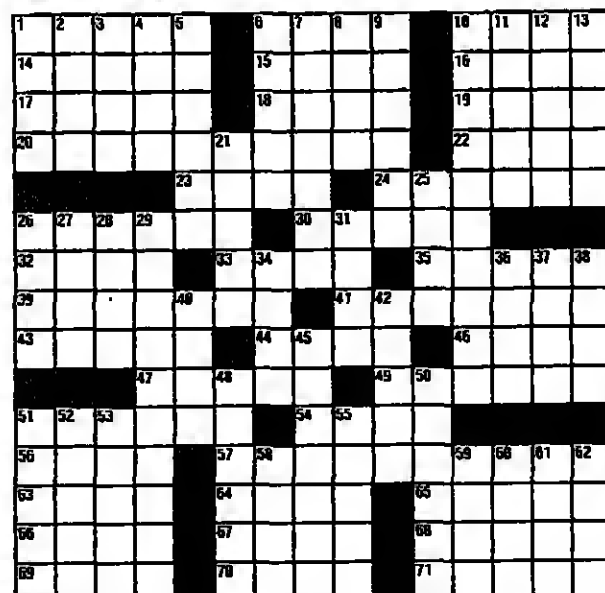
The hit by the American new wave singer jumped two places to overtake the Pet Shop Boys, whose single Always On My Mind settled into second place.

In third place was House Arrest by Krush, up from eighth position a week ago, followed by 1 Found Someone by Cher, up from 18th to 4th; and Stutter Rap by Morris Minor and the Majors, at number five, up from 19th.

This week's top 10 singles as listed by Melody Maker magazine, with last week's placements in parentheses:

1. (1) Heaven Is a Place on Earth—Belinda Carlisle (Virgin).
2. (1) Always On My Mind—Pet Shop Boys (Parlophone).
3. (8) House Arrest—Krush (Club).
4. (18) I Found Someone—Cher (Geffen).
5. (19) Stutter Rap—Morris Minor and the Majors (10).
6. (7) Angel Eyes—Wet Wet Wet (Precious).
7. (34) All Day And All Of The Night—Stranglers (Epic).
8. (10) Jingo—Jellybean (Chrysalis).
9. (31) Sign Your Name—Terence Trent D'Arby (CBS).
10. (6) The Way You Make Me Feel—Michael Jackson (Epic).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Trumpet sound
 - 6 Biblical outcast
 - 10 Red Skelton character
 - 14 Sign of spring
 - 15 Trapper's trophy
 - 16 Trickle
 - 17 Choose by ballot
 - 18 Selection for Sutherland
 - 19 Livorno legal tender
 - 20 Art medium
 - 22 Mid-east port
 - 23 Let up
 - 24 Way out
 - 26 Teacher, at times
 - 30 Neck
 - 32 Berra
 - 33 Ogden, the poet
 - 35 Out of practice
 - 39 Loch Ness swimmer?
 - 41 Country on the Adriatic
 - 43 Rasher
 - 44 port
 - 46 Bakery item
 - 47 Artist's pigment
 - 49 Football conference
 - 51 Commemorative pillars
 - 54 Turkey's neighbor
 - 56 Neophyte
 - 57 Lyric soprano
 - 63 Wingleite
 - 64 Gemal of Lebanon
 - 65 Contemporary of Keats and Shelley
 - 66 Dola out
 - 67 Indine
 - 68 Slow, in music
 - 69 Encouraga
 - 70 Thelora
 - 71 Krupp works local
- DOWN**
- 1 Concoct
 - 2 "Damn Yankees" role
 - 3 Encouraga
 - 4 Pilaf ingredient
 - 5 Dinner course
 - 6 State of confusion
 - 7 Poorly ventilated
 - 8 Distinct
 - 9 Comb. form
 - 10 More immediate
 - 11 Standard bearer
 - 12 River at Orleans
 - 13 Rasourca
 - 21 Chai con—
 - 25 Clothing
 - 26 Fitness centers, for short
 - 27 Crumple, old style
 - 28 Hindu fire god
 - 29 Tamishad
 - 31 Scorch
 - 34 Sandarac tree
 - 36 Snug, trim, in
 - 37 Cache for cash
 - 38 Home of the "Bulldogs"
 - 40 Mexican Indian
 - 42 "The Mary Widow" composer
 - 45 Sistine Chapel feature
 - 48 Queen of the witches in "Macbeth"
 - 50 Incompetent
 - 51 Post Office issue
 - 52 Polk's predecessor
 - 53 Poetry muse
 - 55 Musical composition
 - 58 Hebrew measure
 - 59 Nautical chains
 - 60 Places for
 - 61 Learning method, with "by"
 - 62 Forthwith

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

GULF FROTH MSS
ERIE RUPEE FATA
AGRA ESTER AGAL
REASONS TOPSOIL
TIRE HISTORY
RESOTTED CIA
OVER IRED SNIPE
LOTA CAFES DRAY
LEAFY LENT FORE
AIR RESOUNDS
TRAMPED TOR
RELIEVE DEMILLE
ADEN INTER OYER
DARE SISAL URNS
ENT EMERY SATE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 7 ♠ AK103 ♠ A9 ♠ AQ876
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—If you have an understanding with partner that a cue-bid of three spades would ask for a stopper in the suit, which makes a great deal of sense, that would clearly be the action we would take. Failing that, we would make the value bid of five diamonds. At worst, that should be on a finesse.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ J5 ♠ A83 ♠ AQ62 ♠ KQ106
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?
A.—It is unfriendly of the opponents to open in your best suit when you have such a good hand. Despite the fact that your spade stopper could be better, we suggest you describe your high, balanced hand by overcalling one no trump. The only alternative is to pass.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K85 ♠ KQJ963 ♠ 854 ♠ 7
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Certainly you want to invite game, and it is a judgment call whether you should do so in hearts or spades. We have found that it is better to have the weaker hand's suit as trumps, especially when it is a

good suit. Jump to three hearts. you hold:
♠ 10762 ♠ KQ63 ♠ Q4 ♠ K83
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads to huge penalties for bidding too much. Your hand was worth just one bid, and you made it. Pass.

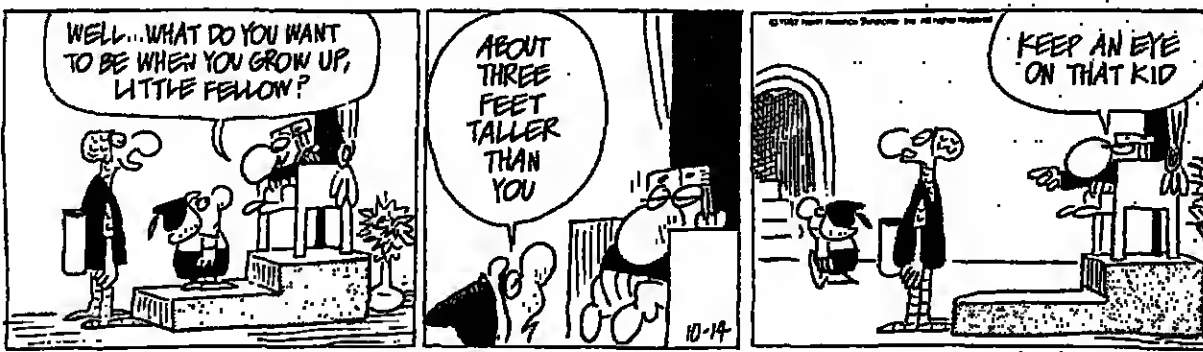
Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 10762 ♠ KQ63 ♠ Q4 ♠ K83
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Three clubs might seem obvious, but we prefer two no trump for two reasons. First, your most probable game is in no trump. Secondly, you have tenaces to protect from a lead through, so it would be better for your hand to declare no trump.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 762 ♠ 952 ♠ K1062 ♠ K83
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads to huge penalties for bidding too much. Your hand was worth just one bid, and you made it. Pass.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A10 ♠ K98 ♠ AQ83 ♠ J985
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Three clubs might seem obvious, but we prefer two no trump for two reasons. First, your most probable game is in no trump. Secondly, you have tenaces to protect from a lead through, so it would be better for your hand to declare no trump.

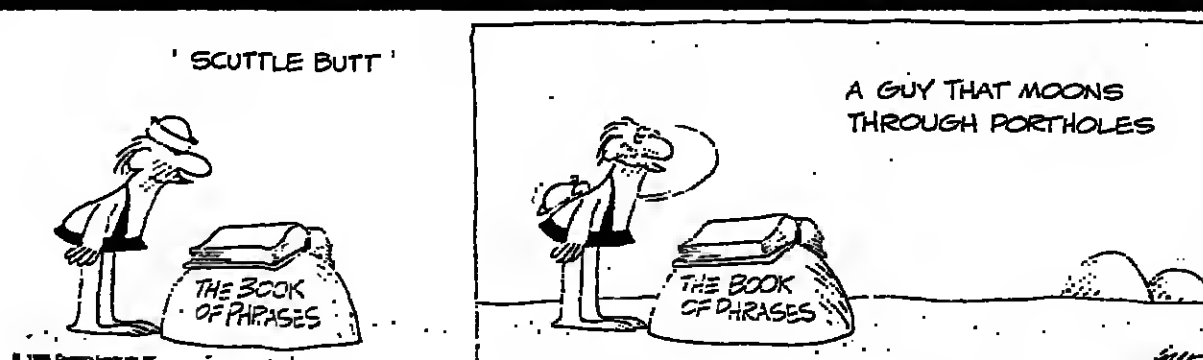
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
The prospects are good and you will also be able to take a good opportunity. You will be able to do what you have long wanted to do. Make sure you do not overture yourself. Be resilient.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
Today you will be better able to face up to change. You should not place too much reliance on luck, though you will have some. Do not take any risks with your health and eat a balanced diet. Be generous.
- Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)**
You will be able to see things more clearly than of late. You should try to think the best of others, not the worst.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**
You will have a good opportunity to deal with an outstanding matter. Your personal situation will take a turn for the better. Do not think you are the only one who has any good ideas. Be cordial.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**
You will be able to make better progress than you first thought possible. Others will be more inclined to see things from your point of view. Listen to what others are saying, but do not yet commit yourself. Be objective.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**
You will have to pay more attention to your financial affairs. Do not allow expenditure to get out of hand. If you try to behave like someone you are not you will tend to lose sight of who you are.
- Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)**
The Moon's better influence, coupled with that of Venus will help you to do what you had intended to do. However, you must also work hard. Avoid any kind of extreme or exaggerations. Be reasonable.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
The Moon's better influence will help you to do what you had made up your mind to do. You should not attempt to do. You will get on better with those around you.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
You should stay calm even in rather exciting circumstances. Do not allow your likes and dislikes to cloud your judgment. Make sure others understand what you have in mind. Be logical.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)**
You have no time to waste and you must try to conserve your energies. You will be able to deal with an important matter. You should try not to allow yourself to be intimidated. Be frugal.
- Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)**
You will feel more favourably inclined towards others. You will also find it easier to do the right thing in the circumstances.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**
You will tend to be a little on the nervous side and will tire rather easily. Try to keep things simple and concentrate on essentials. Make sure you get all the rest you need. Be truthful.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Iran and Turkey sign interim protocol on oil pipeline

ANKARA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Turkey and Iran signed an interim protocol yesterday for the construction of an oil pipeline between the two countries, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The line to carry oil from Iran's Ahvaz field to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Doryol would give Tehran an outlet safe from Iraq attack to the Gulf.

Iraq also has an export pipeline through Turkey with a capacity of 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) which terminates on the Mediterranean near Doryol.

The interim protocol between Tehran and Ankara was signed after talks by an Iranian technical delegation here with Turkish officials.

The 1,360 km (1,160 miles) \$4 billion line would carry one million barrels per day (bpd) of Iranian oil and take up to three years to build.

The Iranian head of delegation, Mohammad Javad Asemipur, said the protocol would provide a basis for further talks in Tehran. It provided the outline for the final agreement, expected to be signed during a visit by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to Iran, he added.

"Those who see the pipeline project as a short-term one and due to the ongoing war (with Iraq) are mistaken. Despite all the difficulties, we are able to export our oil. We have other means for an outlet, which we don't use now and keep them for the worst days," Asemipur said.

Takeshita ends Washington trip

US, Tokyo pledge to shore up dollar

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (Reuters): Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita ends a four-day Washington visit today after making firm pledges to shore up the US dollar and to spur world trade by opening Japan's markets to foreign goods.

His next stop was Toronto, for a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Takeshita told Japanese reporters yesterday that a joint statement he issued with President Reagan "was aimed at impressing currency markets that the two nations are determined to work further to stabilise exchange rates."

The two leaders pledged in the joint statement on Wednesday to shore up the dollar to prevent any new wide currency fluctuations.

Volatility

"Japan and the United States are ready to intervene anytime to prevent volatility in exchange rates," a senior Japanese official travelling with Takeshita told Reuters.

Takeshita also renewed a pledge, in a speech to reporters at the National Press Club, that Japan will carry out market-opening measures and policy coordination in close cooperation with the United States.

"We will actively promote improvements in market access so as to further encourage this trend and to ensure that the expansion of Japan's domestic demand will have positive

impact on the world economy," he said in the speech.

Japan, which runs the world's largest trade surplus, has been pressured to boost its economy and so increase imports.

Pursue

"Japan will cooperate closely with the United States and West European nations, and will pursue appropriate coordination of our policies for macro-economic management," he said.

At the same time Takeshita asked the United States to continue its efforts to cut its fiscal budget deficit, sustain economic growth and fight protectionism.

On specific trade disputes, US officials expressed satisfaction during Takeshita's visit with Japan's proposal to open its market to more foreign food, but were not happy with Japan's proposal on opening up its construction business.

US Trade Representative Clayton Yentler, in a radio interview, said Japan's proposal was vague and did not go far enough. "It does not meet our needs," he said.

Retaliation

Congress last month passed a bill barring Japanese firms from taking part in US federally-financed projects in retaliation for Japan's closed industry.

Takeshita said in his Press Club speech, however, that the two sides would soon resolve the construction issue.

Japan proposed negotiations between the two countries on



President Reagan (right) shakes hands with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita at the White House after the conclusion of their talks in the Oval Office. (Reuters wirephoto)

ways to allow more foreign participation in Japan's government-funded construction contracts.

Takeshita implied that opening of Japanese farm markets would take time, telling the Japanese-only news conference

that Japanese producers should be protected as much as possible.

"Japan should make sure producers should not suffer pains from liberalisation so rapidly," he said.

Takeshita told Japanese reporters that the trip had helped

Despite output cuts

Gulf bows to discount pressure

BAHRAIN, Jan 15, (Reuters): Gulf oil producers one by one are bowing to pressure from a glutted market and undercutting Opec's official price, industry sources said yesterday.

Six Gulf members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) reduced output this month by at least 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) to 10.3 million to help support prices, they said.

Forced

But the output cuts — voluntary by Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and Iraq and forced on Saudi Arabia and Iran by slack sales — did not work, the sources added.

To preserve market shares, recession-hit Gulf states began meeting requests for supplies at prices related to the spot market almost two dollars below Opec's \$18-a-barrel benchmark price.

Traders said Iran, Qatar and Iraq had been selling at spot-related prices for some time. Kuwait was also offering its crude at discount.

They said Saudi Arabia, the

world's biggest oil exporter, was now also thought to be giving discounts at least to some of its big buyers. Only the United Arab Emirates (UAE) had so far resisted the pressure.

Opec President and Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman said on Monday the 13-nation group was now producing between 16 and 16.5 million barrels per day including Iraq, compared with an estimated 18.3 million in December.

Biggest

Abu Dhabi, biggest producer in the UAE, cut output by 400,000 bpd in January. But with around 350,000 bpd from Dubai, the UAE total still stood at 1.2 million bpd compared with its 948,000 bpd Opec quota, industry sources said.

They said Kuwait was producing its quota of 996,000 bpd, after cutting more than 150,000 in January.

Iraq and Iraq, relying heavily on oil incomes to fight their costly war, were also cutting output.

Lukman said Iraq, although

excluded from the Opec quota set at the group's last meeting in Vienna, had cut output to around 2.3 million bpd from an estimated 2.6 million.

Iraq, facing buyer resistance after a US oil embargo against it, was forced to trim output. It now produced under two million bpd compared with a quota of 2,369 million, industry sources said.

Decline

Saudi Arabia's output fell to 3.6 million bpd from 4.2 million in December, a decline also attributed to lower purchases.

Since the start of this week, spot prices for February delivery have fallen at least one dollar to 16.20 a barrel for European benchmark crude Brent, after news that Gulf states were selling at a discount.

The Middle East Economic Survey newsletter said on Monday Saudi Arabia had been giving preferential treatment to the four US oil companies that make up the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) — Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Chevron.

It said the companies, which operate Saudi oilfields, were invoiced on the basis, with final settlement deferred.

Kuwait had offered its Japanese and US customers market-related prices, but buyers were demanding larger discounts, oil executives said.

"Both Kuwait and Abu Dhabi were watching each other to see which one would offer market-related prices," one Japanese executive said.

Gave up

"Kuwait gave up official prices first. Abu Dhabi is now the only Gulf producer selling at official prices."

He said Japanese oil companies would soon negotiate 145,000 bpd term contracts with Abu Dhabi, most of which are due to expire at the end of March.

"The companies will surely ask for discounts," he said.

Iraq is also offering Japanese customers market-related prices for the first quarter of this year, industry sources said.

North Sea oil bonanza comes to an end

LONDON, Jan 15, (UPI): The bonanza from Britain's North Sea oil and gas is coming to an end, according to Ioland Revenue Statistics out today.

The 1987 figures revealed the slump in world oil prices in 1986 took a heavy toll on the government's tax revenues.

They illustrated how Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's period in office benefited from the boom in oil and gas production from the North Sea: now past its peak.

In 1978-79, revenue from oil swelled Treasury coffers by just \$565 million (\$1.017 billion), rising to \$2,313 billion (\$4,163 billion) the following year and £12,028 billion (\$21,650 billion) in 1984-85.

By 1985-86, it had slipped to £11,343 billion (\$20,417 billion).

Then the collapse in world oil prices in early 1986 — from \$30 to between \$10 and 14 a barrel — slashed revenue, which fell to £4,798 billion (\$8,636 billion) in 1986-87.

World Business Summary

Iran, Algeria sign trade agreement

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Jan 15, (AP): Iran and Algeria yesterday signed an agreement to boost trade and economic cooperation, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the agreement was signed by a Deputy Minister of Heavy Industries, Hassan Ramazanian-Pour, and Algerian Deputy Commerce Minister Mourad Medecel.

The Algerian official is in Tehran for talks with his Iranian counterparts. The news agency said Iran would "in the near future" export zinc, cement, ball bearings, and jeep-type cars to Libya. It said Libya in turn would send textiles, aluminium plate, chemicals and other commodities. The agency said trade between the two nations was expected to reach \$160 million this year.

Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khaddafi, once Iran's backer in its 7-year-old war against Iraq, has in past months been backing off, describing the war as wasteful and urging Iran to seek peace.

Italy to finance Indonesian geothermal plant

JAKARTA, Jan 15, (Reuters): Italy will help Indonesia exploit its large reserves of geothermal energy by financing construction of a power plant in West Java, Indonesia's National Development Planning minister said yesterday. Johannes Sumartini said the Italian government will provide financing of \$71 million on concessional terms for construction of the 110 megawatt plant at Mt Salak, 60 kms (40 miles) south of Jakarta. Agreement on the loan was announced following the visit to Indonesia of Italian Prime Minister Giovanni Goria last week. Sumartini told reporters after a meeting with President Suharto the plant would be built by an Italian company, and consist of two 55 megawatt units. He did not name the company but Goria's delegation included executives from Italy's state energy conglomerate ENI. Oil producer Indonesia is estimated by the government to have an estimated total geothermal potential of 10,000 megawatts, but it has only just begun exploiting this, with two small plants operating on Java, and a larger one under construction. But the government is keen to diversify its energy sources away from reliance on oil. The loan includes \$8.2 million to finance Indonesian government costs in the project. Sumartini said the soft loan would be repayable in 20 years, with a grace period of 10 years and an interest rate of 1.5 per cent per annum. Agreement on the loan would be signed shortly, he stated without elaboration.

BP cash offer 'inadequate'

LONDON, Jan 15, (AP): British Petroleum Co Plc yesterday formally launched its £2.27 billion (\$4.13 billion) cash offer for Britoil Plc, which has reached a competing, friendly agreement for Atlantic Richfield Co. to acquire a partial Britoil stake. BP, which had said it would offer 450 pence (\$8.19) a share for the 70.1 per cent of the Glasgow-based North Sea oil company it does not already own, confirmed the cash offer in a document sent to Britoil's shareholders. BP also announced that it would offer Britoil's shareholders a lower alternative of cash and BP stock which — at BP's share price yesterday — values Britoil's shares at 443 pence (\$8.06) each or a total of £2.23 billion (\$4.06 billion). A Britoil spokesman rejected the BP offer as "derisory" and "totally inadequate," after I got my baggage ready," he said.

Oman boosts gas reserves

MUSCAT, Jan 15, (Opecna): Oman's natural gas reserves increased by three trillion to 9.60 trillion cu. ft. this month, according to sources at the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals. Quoted by the Arabic daily 'Oman', the sources said that this year three gas prospecting programmes would be launched in the Sultanate at a cost of \$6.30 billion. In 1987, Oman's natural gas consumption totalled 50 billion cu. ft. with demands averaging 150 million and 400 million cu. ft. a day in summer and winter respectively. Following the launching of a special exploration programme in 1984, Oman's natural gas reserves stood at 7.60 trillion cu. ft. increasing to 7.70 trillion cu. ft. in 1985 and 8.10 trillion cu. ft. in 1986.

Lawson may increase interest rates

LONDON, Jan 15, (AP): Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson made it clear on Wednesday night that he is prepared to raise interest rates if necessary to combat inflation.

He turned down appeals by the employers' organisation, the Confederation of British Industry, to let the cost of borrowing.

Both Lawson and Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, stressed the need to ward off inflation, which the Chancellor said "is at the very heart of government policy and ought to be."

British interest rates were cut by 1-1/2 per cent to 8-1/2 per cent in the wake of the stock market crash in October, to bolster confidence and head off the prospect of recession.

Lawson, chairing the quarterly meeting of the National Economic Development Council, said he believed fears of recession had been "laid to rest" though there were still risks.

He pointed to the twin US budget and trade deficits, which he said have undermined stock market confidence and sent the dollar tumbling.

The finance minister said the United States was likely to put its interest rates up at some stage to deal with the massive deficits.

Lawson said prospects for the world economy were better than most people thought likely, a short while ago, with faster growth, interest rate reductions and greater international cooperation all playing their part.

Dutch strike oil under refinery

PERNIS, Netherlands, Jan 15, (AP): The Dutch have struck oil right under one of Western Europe's largest oil refineries, the Dutch Petroleum Company (NAM) said yesterday.

The substantial oil deposit was discovered in November during test drilling at the Royal Dutch Shell refinery near this Rotterdam suburb, according to Nam spokesman Frank Duut. A substantial natural gas deposit was found at the same time, but was discarded last year.

The Netherlands contains large natural gas fields, but oil deposits are rare and the Netherlands imports all its crude petroleum supplies.

Nam surveys believe the Pernis site contains an estimated 12-16 million barrels worth 350 million guilders (\$137 million). Duut said, adding that extraction of the oil is expected to start within two years.

The field also contains 5 billion cubic meters (175 billion cubic feet) of natural gas with a market value of a billion guilders (\$340 million), Duut said.

The fact that the Shell refinery sits above the field will cut development costs, Duut said, adding that the fuels are Nam property.

W. German deficit widens

BONN, Jan 15, (AP): West Germany's 1987 budget deficit grew far more than expected because of sluggish growth and other factors, reaching 27.5 billion marks (\$16.8 billion), Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said yesterday.

Stoltenberg said the budget deficit was 5.2 billion marks (\$3.2 billion) more than originally planned.

The United States and other nations have been putting pressure on West Germany to stimulate economic growth, which could help ease the huge American trade deficit.

Decline

On another issue, Stoltenberg also told reporters that the United States does not want the dollar to decline further.

Last week, Stoltenberg said the 1988 budget deficit will also be greater than planned for — by about 10 billion marks (\$6 billion). He said one of the major factors was the sharp plummet of

the US dollar late last year.

At yesterday's news conference, Stoltenberg said the wider 1987 budget shortfall resulted from lower tax revenues caused by slower economic growth and other factors.

In 1987, West Germany's Gross National Product (GNP) increased as inflation-adjusted 1.7 per cent, according to preliminary government statistics.

Meanwhile, Economics Minister Martin Bangemann said in a statement that the West German government will aim at real economic growth of between 1.5 per cent and 2.0 per cent in 1988.

But he cautioned that the "range of prognoses" lies between 1 per cent and 2 per cent.

Clear

Stoltenberg told reporters it is clear from statements by US officials in recent days that the United States does not want the dollar to drop further.

He said the seven major indus-

trialised nations, known as the G-7, had succeeded in keeping the dollar relatively stable between February 1987 — when they signed the so-called Louvre accord to stabilise currencies — and October.

Stoltenberg said the G-7 made another attempt to stabilise the dollar with a Dec 22 statement that essentially reaffirmed the Louvre accord.

He said finance ministries and central banks can bring about "a certain stabilisation of the dollar," but he cautioned that economic fundamentals also play an important role.

Attributed

Go Fraekfurt currency markets, the dollar was fixed yesterday at 1.6374 West German marks, up from Wednesday's 1.6269.

Dealers attributed the gain to Wednesday's round of concerted interventions by several central banks, including the US Federal Reserve and the West German Bundesbank.

Mexico renews Japanese oil contract

MEXICO CITY, Jan 15, (AP): The government oil monopoly Pemex announced on Wednesday the renewal of a contract to sell 180,000 barrels daily of crude oil this year to Japan.

A brief statement said the 12-month contract was signed at Pemex's Mexico City headquarters by Francisco Rojas, Pemex general director, and Zorzi Tatai, executive vice president of the Mexican Petroleum Importing Co.

The company represents private Japanese buyers of Mexican crude.

Japan trails only the United States and Spain as a customer for Mexican oil, which is this country's No. 1 export by far.

Mexico is the world's fifth largest oil producer. Pemex announced on Monday that sales to foreign buyers last year brought in \$7.82 billion, a hefty 40 per cent increase over 1986.

UK urged to back any Murdoch bid for FT

LONDON, Jan 15, (Reuters): Britain's opposition Labour Party urged the government yesterday to block any attempt by newspaper magnate Rupert Murdoch to add the prestige Financial Times to his international media empire.

The call came a day after the Pearson group, which owns the Business Daily, disclosed that Murdoch had raised his stake in the company from 14.9 to 19.8 per cent.

Impartial

"No one would trust a Murdoch Financial Times as an impartial journal of financial record" labour trade and industry spokesman Bryan Gould said.

He called on the government to tell Murdoch he would not be allowed to take control of the

Financial Times and added: "The news that he was bought one in five shares in Pearson is extremely alarming."

Murdoch, already the owner of five British national newspapers including the Times, would need permission from the Monopolies Commission before he could buy more than 25 per cent of Pearson.

Debate

Murdoch, who is battling to avoid being legally obliged to shed media interests in the United States, has denied wanting to take over the Financial Times and claims to want only a closer relationship.

He was accused during a debate in parliament on Wednesday of contributing personally to a steep decline in press standards.

Speakers in the House of

Lords singled out the Sun, a brashly irreverent tabloid owned by Murdoch, and his sensationalist Sunday newspaper the News of the World, for harsh criticism.

"Mr Murdoch is far more representative of the present condition of the tabloid press than all his editors and journalists put together," said Labour's Lord Longford.

The Sun, which pioneered the daily publication of nude pin-ups known as page three girls, is the paper most complained about to the Press Council, a body which oversees press conduct although it has no statutory powers.

The Sun and its rival, the Star, have been accused of persecuting the Royal family and plumbing new depths of bad taste. A Sun front page story after a recent Church of England debate of

homosexuality among the clergy carried the headline: "pulpit poofs can stay."

Lord Deedes, once a Conservative cabinet minister and former editor of the Daily Telegraph, told the Lords the prestige of the national press "is at a very low ebb — the lowest I have known in about half a century of journalism."

Deedes said court juries "are increasingly attaching public anger with the press to the awards they make in libel cases."

Awarded

Best-selling author Jeffrey Archer, a former Conservative Member of Parliament, was awarded £500,000 (\$910,000) last year by a libel jury which cleared him of claims by The Star that he had paid a prostitute hush money.

In the year the tractor industry is setting new records...

EICHER TRACTORS

The pioneer and market leader goes public.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Place	Date	Time	Hotel
Kuwait	17.1.88	7.30 p.m.	Kuwait Sheraton
Dubai	20.1.88	7.30 p.m.	Astoria

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

- A buoyant tractor market.
- An existing, professionally managed, dividend paying, Rs. 83 crore turnover company.
- Leader in tractor market below 30 HP with over 50% market share.
- Largest R&D centre in tractor industry.
- Better productivity and profitability with a Rs. 7 crore modernisation plan under implementation.
- Dividend for financial year ending on 30th June, 1988 to be paid for the entire year on shares being issued through this public issue.

Public Issue of 26,40,000 Equity Shares out of which 7,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs.10 each for cash at a premium of Rs. 5 per share are reserved for NRIs.

ISSUE OPENS FOR NRI: 23rd JANUARY, 1988.



EICHER TRACTORS LIMITED
Regd. Office: 16A, Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi-110 002, India.
Head Office: 79-80, Sakinaka, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110 019, India.

First Public Issue of Equity Shares by the Rs. 83 crore Pioneer.



International Bond Highlights

Zurich — The European Investment Bank is issuing a 150 mln Swiss franc 10-year bond with a 4-1/2 pct coupon and par issue price, lead manager Banque Paribas, Kurz, Bungeger said.

Amsterdam — Bank Mees En Hope NV said it is launching under its own management a 100 mln guilder zero coupon bond, the first since this type of paper paying no annual interest was allowed in the Netherlands on January 1 this year.

London — The dollar straight sector of the Eurobond market surged in line with US Treasury securities following news of the unexpectedly low US November Trade deficit of \$13.22 billion, dealers said.

London — US Treasury bond prices in London soared within minutes of release of the smaller than expected US trade deficit, dealers said.

Paris — The new seven billion franc, 9.50 pct French state bond has been fully subscribed by individual investors only one week after issue, lead manager Societe Generale said.

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 8 7/8 1/2	8 5/8 1/2	9 1/16 8 15/16
FT 3 15/16	3 35/64	3 45/64
PAR 7 15/16 8 1/16	8 1/8	8 3/8 1/2
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1 1/4 1 1/2	2 2 1/4
BRX 6 3/4	6 1/2 5/8	6 1/2 5/8
ROM 9 11 3/4	10 1/8 10 5/8	10 3/8 10 7/8
AND 4 1/4 4 3/8	4 3/8 4 5/16	4 5/16 4 7/16
TOK 3 5000 5625	3 7500 8125	3 8750 9375
ECU 6.06 6.31	6.31 6.43	6.62 6.75

Interest Rates

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	3 5/16	3 13/16
3 months	4 1/2	4 5/8
6 months	4 13/16	5 1/16
1 year	5 1/4	5 3/4

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GNFC	35	34.50	34.50	MODI ALKAL	5.50	--	--
ACC	176	176	171	GRAYTON 120	--	--	--	--	--	--
ADNDADV	--	--	--	GSFC	108	107	107.50	ORAY	27.50	27.50
ADNDADV400	--	--	--	GUJ PETRO	23.50	--	--	PREMAUTO	25.75	29.50
ADNDRA CEN	10.75	10.25	10.50	GNALICOR	98	96.50	97	RAYMOND CO	--	--
ADNDRA VLY	147.50	--	--	HINDALCO	129	129	131	RAYMOND CO	95	93
BAJAJ AUTO	510	497.50	495	HYD LAMP	--	--	--	RELIANCE	113	110
BAR RAYON	160	157.50	160	IND ORG	21	20	20.50	SPIC	34.25	33.50
BON DYING	115	114	117	INDRATON	55	54.50	55	STO MILLS	295	300
BOMBAY STOCK PRICES	--	--	--	INDROL	205	200	210	STONEDICAL	--	13.50
BSE INDEX	472.35	467.65	467.65	ITC	38	36.50	37	STEELTUBE	--	--
CENTURYPS	705	690	695	ITC CD	--	--	--	TATA PWR	187.50	187.50
COLGATE	206.25	205	206.25	JK 120	--	--	--	TATACHEN	71	69.50
DEEPAKERT	34.50	33.50	34	JCSYNTN	62	61	61.50	TATAOIL	84	84
DMRACERT	--	--	--	L AND T	93.50	94.50	92	TELCO	390	380
FIDON DRG	--	--	--	MAGNAT	--	--	--	UDAPHOSPN	--	--
GARUPOLY	82	81	82	MAHINDRA	62	59.50	61	VOLTAS	270	265

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR	CLSE
AEG	175.7	178.5	--
ALLIANZ VR	1115.0	1137.0	--
BADENW	170.8	170.0	--
BASF	236.0	237.1	--
BAYER	248.0	247.2	--
BAYER HYP	305.0	306.5	--
BAYER VER	310.0	305.5	--
BBC	278.2	280.2	--
BRE	294.0	301.0	--
BW	465.0	467.0	--
CHENIE-VER	0	120.0	--
COMMERZB	208.5	204.5	--
CONIT GUM	184.0	186.0	--
DATMER BEN	554.0	550.5	--
DEUTSCH BNK	387.0	384.5	--
DLV	305.0	305.0	--
DRESNER B	219.5	223.0	--
DTB-BADCOCK	148.0	148.0	--
GAZ-INDEXE	405.42	414.15	--
GLD-SCHMID	225.0	228.0	--
GUTHOFF	0	0	--
HARPER	392.0	388.0	--
HOECHST AG	235.5	240.4	--
HOESCH	89.5	87.5	--
HORTEN	158.0	157.0	--
HUSSEL HLD	384.0	390.0	--
KALZ SALZ	115.0	117.0	--
KARSTADT	362.2	381.0	--
KAUFROR	350.0	342.5	--
KLOECK H	88.0	87.5	--
KLOECK W	0	75.2	--
LINDE	536.0	535.0	--
LUFTHANSA	131.0	134.0	--
MAN	143.0	143.5	--
MANHESMAN	102.8	102.5	--
MERCEDES	454.0	458.0	--
METALLGES	200.0	208.0	--
WIDORPF	522.5	537.0	--
WOLSK HYD	38.50	38.50	--
PHILIP KON	597.0	611.5	--
PORSCHE	420.0	419.5	--
PREUSSAG	105.0	107.0	--
PKW	174.5	173.8	--
RHEIN	199.0	211.5	--
RHEIN P	194.0	205.7	--
RHEINMETAL	216.0	220.0	--
SCHERING	263.5	265.0	--
SEL	355.2	364.3	--
SIEMENS	299.0	300.8	--
THYSEN	346.7	347.7	--
VARTA	106.1	106.5	--
VEBA	220.0	225.5	--
VERA	244.0	253.0	--
WOLKSWAGEN	162.8	163.5	--
WOLKSWAGEN	205.0	203.0	--

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR	CLSE
C H TUNNEL	14.40	14.30	--
CHUNG K	6.80	6.80	--
CHINA GAS	15.30	15.40	--
CHINA L-P	18.60	18.50	--
CHINA MOTOR	16.70	16.70	--
COSMO PROP	0	5.55	--
EVERGOLD	33	33	--
FAR EAST C	71	72	--
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00	--
H C DEVELP	8.40	8.35	--
H S INDEX	429.77	411.52	--
HONG LUNG	4.45	4.45	--
HONG SENG	29.00	29.00	--
HUI PAI BR	0	21.00	--
HK ELEC CO	7.85	7.75	--
HK KOWSON	6.40	6.35	--
HK LAND CO	7.50	7.45	--
HK SHAN BK	7.40	7.40	--
HK SHAN HT	4.00	4.10	--
HK TELE CO	14.70	14.60	--
HUTCH WMAN	7.40	7.25	--
IND EO PAC	7.30	7.95	--
JARDINE K	11.20	11.10	--
KOMCON M	10.70	10.60	--
NEW WORLD	7.50	7.45	--
PAUL T CON	1.59	1.60	--
S H K CO	1.72	1.73	--
S H K PROP	8.75	8.70	--
SINE DARRY	1.42	1.44	--
STELUX MFG	5.65	5.70	--
SWIRE PAC	15.80	15.80	--
T V B CO	13.00	13.00	--
TAL CHEUNG	3.07	3.07	--
UNIT BANK	1.56	1.56	--
WOCK HAD	0	7.25	--
WOCK HAD	0	1.15	--
WORLD ENTL	2.05	2.05	--

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL				8C-A	78.50	78.00	79.00
STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL	LC-A	.55	.55	.56
AC-A	8.30	8.30	8.40	LC-B	.61	.60	.61
ANSCOR	5.00	5.00	5.10	PK-A	.54	.54	.55
FER	2.70	2.65	2.75	PK-B	.55	.55	.56
GLO	33.00	33.00	33.50	OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	155.00	154.00	155.00	BP-A	.016	.016	.017
PCIB				BP-B		.016	.017
SMC-A	117.00	116.00	117.00	LRC-A		.003	.0032
SMC-B		130.00		LRC-B		.003	
MINING SECTOR				OPM-A	.0925	.09	.0925
APX-A	.0525	.0525		OPM-B	.09	.0925	.0975
APX-B	.0525	.0525	.0550	OV	.049	.049	.049
AT-A	29.50		30.00	OV-B	.05	.048	.05

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
SECTOR	510,230	3,796,565	765.66	11.83 UP
COMM. - IND.	104,490,250	22,861,025	6,113.53	102.29 UP
MINTING	104,430,000	8,445,490	6,346	0.208 UP
OIL	346,430,480	35,105,080	847.50	18.24 UP

PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR								
STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL		BC-A	78.00	78.00	80.00
SNC-A	116.00	115.00	116.00		BC-B		80.00	100.00
AGPI-A			65.00		LC-A	.55	.55	.56
ANSCOR	5.10	5.00	5.10		LC-B	.60	.60	.62
AC-A		8.20	8.60		PK-A	.54	.53	.54
FERT-A	2.60	2.60	2.70	OIL SECTOR				
FERT-B		2.70	2.85	STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL	
GLO		32.50	33.00	BP-A		.016	.015	.016
PLDT	155.00	154.00	155.00	BP-B		.017	.016	.017
SDITRE		27.00	27.50	QPM-A		.0925	.09	.0925
				QPM-B		.09	.09	.0950
NINING SECTOR				OV-A		.048	.048	.049
STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL	OV-B		.05	.049	.05
APX-A	.05	.05	.0525	SPH-A		.024	.025	.026
APX-B		.05	.0525	SPH-B		.025	.025	.026
AT-A	30.00	29.50	30.00	SM-A		.029	.029	.03
AT-B	32.50	32.50	33.00	TA		.029	.029	.03

Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SHARES	VALUES	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	343,650	6,672,210	762.28	UP 6.02
MINTING	189,234,800	33,561,475	5,777.08	UP 62.81
OILS	262,060,000	11,282,250	6,508	UP 24.75
TOTAL	450,638,450	51,515,935	828.05	UP 15.77

KUWAIT

	As of 13.1.88					
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.020	1.030	1.030	1.020	130000	7
GULF BANK	0.395	0.395	0.400	0.395	220000	5
COMMERCIAL BK	0.280	0.275	0.280	0.275	60000	4
AMLI BANK	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.380	20000	2
B.K.M.E	0.290	0.290	0.290	0.290	20000	2
K.R.E.B.	0.440	0.440	0.440	0.440	20000	2
BURBAN BANK	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	20000	2
K.F.MOUSE	0.500	0.510	0.510	0.495	170000	11
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.218	0.212	0.212	0.212	54810	2
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.210	10000	1
K.I.I.C.	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	10000	1
CON.FACILITIES	0.440	0.435	0.435	0.435	10000	1
AMLIAN INV.	0.000	0.112	0.112	0.110	80000	2
I.F.A.	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.110	80000	2
INV. PEARL KUT	0.104	0.112	0.112	0.104	940000	16
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KUT INSURANCE	0.800	0.740	0.760	0.740	15000	3
GULF INSURANCE	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	15000	3
AMLIA INS. CO.	0.610	0.610	0.610	0.610	15000	3
WARRA INS. CO.	0.490	0.490	0.490	0.490	15000	3
REAL EST SECTOR						
KUT R.EST. CO.	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	15000	3
UNI R.EST. CO.	0.132	0.132	0.132	0.132	60000	2
NAT R.EST. CO.	0.240	0.240	0.240	0.240	60000	2
SALIMIAN R.E.	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	60000	2
KUT PROJECTS	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	60000	2
KUT R.E.I.CON	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	60000	2
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.560	0.560	0.560	0.560	10000	1
KUT M.P. IND.	0.315	0.295	0.295	0.295	10000	1
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	10000	1
REF. IND. CO.	0.395	0.395	0.395	0.395	10000	1
N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	10000	1
GULF CABLE	1.040	1.040	1.040	1.040	250000	1
K.P.H.IND. CO.	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.176	250000	1
CONT.MARINE	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	250000	1
K.SH.REP.CO.	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	250000	1
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.090	0.085	0.085	0.085	80000	2
K.N.C. CO.	0.218	0.218	0.218	0.218	80000	2
KUT HOTELS CO.	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.168	80000	2
P.WAREHOUSING	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.176	80000	2
CON.MKT.CNPK.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	80000	2
MOBILE TELE.	0.390	0.385	0.385	0.385	750000	26
KUT COMPUTER	0.186	0.190	0.190	0.184	400000	12
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	20000	1
UNITO FISHERIES	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.144	20000	1
UNITO POULTRY	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	20000	1
KUT FOODS	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	20000	1
AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	20000	1
NON-KUT SECTOR						
BNN.INTER.BK	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.072	280000	2
BHN.N.EAST.BK	0.051	0.052	0.052	0.052	280000	2
UNITO.GULF BK	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	280000	2
COAST INVEST.	0.094	0.093	0.094	0.093	160000	3
A.G. INV.CORP	0.041	0.041	0.041	0.041	400000	3
FIRST.GULF BK	0.870	0.870	0.870	0.870	520000	3
B.K.I.G.	0.096	0.092	0.092	0.092	520000	7
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL LT						
INFINARIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
PEARL INV.CO.	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	452988	4
GULF INV.CO.	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	452988	4
GULF INTL INS	0.000	0.042	0.042	0.042	452988	4
ARAB INTL CO.	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	452988	4
SHARJAH INS	0.000	0.055	0.055	0.055	452988	4
GULF UNION INS	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	452988	4
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
GULF MEDICAL	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	160000	2
R-K.WHITE CRMT	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	160000	2
AJMAN CEMENT	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	160000	2
FUJAIRAH CENT	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	160000	2
SHARJAH CEMENT	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	160000	2
GULF CEMENT	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	160000	2
UMM QATUAIN	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	160000	2

Gold prices drop

Dollar bounces up on US trade figures

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (Reuters): Stock prices surged around the world and the dollar jumped on currency markets today after the United States reported an unexpectedly large drop in its November trade deficit.

"The markets are going through the roof. This is an exceptionally good number," said a New York dealer.

Wall Street stocks surged 50 points on the Dow Jones industrial average to 1,951 in the first 15 minutes of trading and held onto the gain throughout the morning.

Narrowed

The Commerce Department said the trade deficit narrowed in November to \$13.22 billion from a record 17.63 billion in October, surprising even the most optimistic forecasters who had been expecting a figure in the 14 to 15 billion range.

The dollar immediately shot higher, advancing by four marks and four pence to 1.6700 marks and 129.90 yen from yesterday's close

of 1.6290 and 126.00.

"It's fast and furious," said Karen Kluge of Credit Suisse, referring to trading activity after the trade report.

"For the first five minutes after the number, it was like the stock exchange on October 19. You couldn't find a price," said Chris Bourdain of Bank of America's New York office.

The London stock market's main blue-chip barometer, the FTSE-100 share index, gained more than 15 points to 1,755 after the trade figure was announced. British government bonds also soared.

Jumped

Paris shares jumped 2.6 per cent.

The benchmark US Treasury 30-year bond jumped 1.75 to \$100.31 per \$100 face value of bonds.

The dollar gained nearly four yen to 129.90 yen. Against sterling it gained more than four pence to trade at 1.7825 dollars to the pound.

Dealers had feared yet another big trade deficit, remembering that bad US trade figures helped trigger the 'Black Monday' October 19 markets crash.

Also, they recalled that news in December of the record monthly trade deficit for October caused a rout of share values and hit the dollar.

Arguing

By January 4 the dollar was at historic lows of just 120.20 Japanese yen and 1.5615 West German marks, from which it had to be rescued by concerted intervention during the past 10 days by central banks in the United States, Europe and Japan.

Some economists have been arguing that the dollar had fallen too far.

They said the trade deficit would start to come down as a cheaper dollar priced foreign goods off the US market and as American companies started gaining sales overseas.

"US manufacturers are the

low cost producers in many areas, European manufacturers are holding market share only by severely cutting profit margins, and will soon be forced to cut production and jobs," said Sykes Wilford, an economist at investment bankers Drexel Burnham Lambert.

The trade deficit reported today declined in part because exports for the month soared 9.4 per cent to a record \$23.8 billion. Imports fell six per cent to 37.02 per cent.

While financial markets bang on the release of US trade figures, many sceptical analysts in the United States say these monthly statistics are little more than guesswork.

But the trade figures have repeatedly moved markets in the recent turbulent months.

Anxiety

Besides general anxiety about the US economy, an explanation for the impact made by bad figures seems to be that currency operators have judged that—for

as long as the United States imports much more than it exports—it would pour out more dollars than people wanted.

So anticipating a fall in the value of the dollar, they have sold and taken it down. Stock markets then fell, too, because a weak dollar threatens inflation in the United States and pinches Asian and European companies' export earnings.

Friday's good figures might signal a firmer trend in all markets. Several brokers were saying that anything better than a forecast \$15 billion deficit could be regarded as a positive sign.

As the dollar gained, gold plummeted, losing \$10.20 per ounce to \$481 in New York.

Analysts said markets in Europe had been paralysed ahead of the US trade figures. The Japanese, whose markets were closed today for a holiday, shrugged off worries about America's huge deficit and bought stock yesterday.



Dealers in the London Stock Exchange keep a close eye on their screens as the dollar and stocks moves up on the news of US trade deficit. (Reuters wirephoto)

Central Bank favours merger

(Continued from Page 1)

Bank welcomed any good results and returns by any bank or company, but would not agree to distribution of profits to shareholders at the expense of financial results which were known to the Central Bank. He said the Central Bank realised the effect of such distribution of profits on the activity of these banks and companies. He said this may not be clear now, but the Central Bank's policy was based on concern for the future activities of the local banks and companies.

Refused

Sheikh Saleem said that when the Central Bank refused a request to distribute a certain profit, it was because the Central Bank wanted to protect the assets of the bank or company. But if the Central Bank found the results were good, then it agreed to the request.

Speaking about the speculation in buying US dollars by local banks, he said that resulted in lack of liquidity in Kuwaiti dinars and causing KD interest rates to rise up to 40 per cent for one night. He said, in 1981 the interest rate had shot up to 53 per cent for one night.

He explained that the local banks, taking advantage of the dollar's sharp drop to 269 fils, had started buying dollars without covering their dollar deposits with the Central Bank. The Central Bank then intervened, and commercial banks which were speculating had to bury and cover their deposits and were forced to pay a high interest rate for dinars.

Object

He said the Central Bank did not object to the financial activities of commercial banks, but said these activities should be legal and should not beat the cost of the Kuwaiti dinar.

About implementation of the difficult loans settlement programme, the Governor said that, until Jan 7, the Central Bank had implemented the programme on 96 per cent of the dealers involved and for 93 per cent of the amount. He praised the effect of the programme's implementation on the national economy.

Ozal predicts Turkey payments deficit halved

ISTANBUL, Jan 15, (Reuters): Turkey's current account deficit for 1987 may be less than \$750 million, about half the 1986 deficit, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said yesterday.

The current account balance of payments figures are keenly watched by foreign bankers concerned about repayment of Turkey's foreign debt, which stood at \$33.1 billion in July.

Turkey's unofficial total foreign revenue for 1987 would be about \$16 billion against expenditures of between 16.70 and \$16.75 billion, Ozal told state radio.

The official deficit in the first 10 months of 1987 was \$395 million. The 1986 total was \$1.53 billion and over \$1 billion in 1984 and 1985.

The improvement was mainly due to a 34 per cent rise last year in Turkish exports, mostly manufactured goods. Exports are expected to earn \$10 billion in 1987.

Ozal said Turkey's rate of foreign debt accumulation compared to revenues was far slower than its peak in the 1975-79 period. He hoped Turkey's current account deficit would be eliminated within five years.

US trade deficit drops sharply

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (Reuters): The US government today reported a sharp drop in the trade deficit for November, touching off a powerful rally in world financial markets.

The Commerce Department said the trade gap narrowed to \$13.22 billion from October's record 17.63 billion thanks to a surge in exports and a drop in imports.

The figure, the smallest deficit in six months and far better than the \$15 billion that economists had forecast, immediately reassured traders worried that another poor trade figure would cause havoc in the financial markets.

Surged

The dollar surged more than three per cent against major currencies. Interest rates tumbled and Wall Street stocks soared as the markets read the report as evidence that America was finally getting its financial house in order.

The Dow Jones industrial average jumped more than 50 points in early trading to around 1,970.

The Reagan administration also cheered.

"The drop in the trade deficit is welcome news," Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said in a statement.

It is rarely possible to generalise from only one month's figures, but the November report would seem to indicate that the huge rise in the October deficit was an aberration," he said.

With American exports booming, he said there was no reason for Congress to pass a protectionist trade bill.

"All the fundamentals remain in place for the deficit to decline further in 1988. There is never a good time to erect protectionist trade barriers, but this would clearly be the worst possible time to do so," Yeutter said.

Inflation

The government had more good news today, reporting that inflation remained subdued in December even though the nation's factories continued to pump out more goods.

The Labor Department said prices at the wholesale level dropped by a surprising 0.3 per

cent in December after being unchanged in November.

The department said wholesale prices for all of 1987 increased by 2.2 per cent after declining by 2.3 per cent in 1986. Prices for goods at the wholesale level are now about the same as they were in December 1985.

Industrial production, meanwhile, rose 0.7 per cent in December after rising 0.4 per cent in November and 1.1 per cent in October, the Federal Reserve Board said.

Output of consumer goods was little changed, rising 0.1 per cent in December as widespread increases in production of bow goods, especially appliances, was offset by declines in car production, the Fed said.

The Commerce Department also reported that US business inventories rose by \$5.57 billion or 0.8 per cent, in November to a seasonally adjusted 695.50 billion. If goods continued to pile up on the shelves, factories would eventually be forced to cut back production.

But it was the trade report that excited the markets. Because

economists have blamed global trade imbalances—especially the US deficit—for the recent turmoil in the foreign exchange and stock markets, traders and policymakers alike had been nervously awaiting today's figures.

The government reported

improvements across the board. US exports rose 9.4 per cent to a record \$23.80 billion in November, the clearest sign yet that the three-year drop in the dollar has made US manufacturers more competitive on world markets.

The deficit in manufactured goods narrowed to \$12.22 billion in November from 15.52 billion in October.

Commerce Department officials said exports of aircraft, power generators and chemicals contributed to the record export performance in November. The previous record was \$22.9 billion in March 1981.

There was also a marked improvement on the other side of the nation's trade ledger, with imports dropping 6.0 per cent to \$37.02 billion.

Ruding hits failure to defend dollar

IMF chief flays US

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (AP): A leader of the International Monetary Fund sharply criticised the United States and other leading financial countries yesterday for failing to keep up the price of the dollar as they promised almost a year ago.

He urged that the United States raise interest rates. Higher interest in this country would help push up the dollar by attracting funds from other countries.

Referring

Netherlands Finance Minister H. Onno Ruding heads the Fund's interim committee, its top authority for day to day business among the 152 member governments. He was referring to the "Louvre agreement" in Paris last February by Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III and his counterparts from Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada.

The agreement said the dollar should be kept at about current levels. Since then it has fallen about 18 per cent against the Japanese yen, and about 11 per

cent against the West German mark. Low prices for the dollar cut the income of those countries and others which depend heavily on exports.

"A country like (West) Germany may go into a slump," Ruding told reporters.

He said he had favoured a fall in the dollar, but that about a year ago it had fallen far enough. Stability had also been promised in later statements, he pointed out.

Insufficient

"They did not deliver because of insufficient changes in domestic policy," he said.

He criticised West Germany for failing to lower its interest rates, a move that would have the same international effect as a rise in US rates; it would send more money to buy dollars in the United States, thus pushing up the price of the dollar. Ruding said his own country had repeatedly lowered its own interest rates. Another drop was announced yesterday by the Dutch central bank.

Egypt cuts crude price

CAIRO, Jan 15, (AP): Egypt decreased the price of its grade Gulf of Suez crude to \$15 per barrel for the two weeks of January, a decision on the prices of its oil ministry source said yesterday.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said interdepartmental price-setting committee had not reached decision on the prices of Beldi, Ras Badran and Ras Ghazal and would meet again on Monday.

For the first two weeks of January, the price of Beldi was \$15.05 a barrel, Ras Badran \$14.55 a barrel and Ras Ghazal was \$13.95 a barrel.

The source noted that present situation left the grade Gulf of Suez selling cheaper than the second grade Beldi. Oil ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

Debtor nations short of cash turn increasingly to barter

LONDON, Jan 15, (Reuters): Someone, traders' folklore says, once bartered the skeleton of a Mongolian dinosaur for West German trucks.

The Saudis swapped oil for Tornado warplanes. Honduras exchanged bananas for Soviet fertiliser.

Barter, the world's oldest form of trade, is enjoying a new lease of life in the 1980s. And one reason, economists say, is that many nations are strapped for hard currency.

"The volume of countertrade has a lot to do with the fact that everyone is owing money. They don't have the foreign exchange needed for cash deals," said Jonathan Bell, research manager for Bauls Ltd, a London firm providing trade information and research.

Modern countertrade is a complex business, involving not just bartering goods for goods the way early civilisations did before people invented money, but various other kinds of reciprocal trade agreement too.

There is "buyback" for instance, where a firm gives a country technology and agrees to be paid in goods it produces.

In "counterpurchase," the seller buys something from the buyer in exchange. "Offset" involves an exporter agreeing to incorporate in his final product some part or parts produced by

the importing country.

The extent of countertrade, long favoured by Communist countries, is hard to measure. Depending who you ask, it could account for anything from eight to 25 per cent of world trade.

The bead of countertrade at a large British company said it made up a tiny proportion of its total exports but between 50 and 100 per cent of sales to problem areas.

Shrinking

"I think sellers in the 1990s are going to find rapidly shrinking area to export into where hard currency is available as payment," he said.

The debt crisis meant demand for countertrade was increasing as Communist and Third World exporters faced the problem of how else they could fund imports.

"My view is that it is not going to get any better," the executive said.

"I believe that in the 1990s we shall all be searching for alternative ways to do business, not necessarily through countertrade, but through more creative ways of selling—buyers helping sellers find outlets for their goods, more goodwill."

Traders often use barter to get round quota agreements, market sources said.

They said Uganda produces more than its annual inter-

national Coffee Organisation (ICO) export quota of 142,800 tonnes and barter the surplus with non-ICO countries in the Communist bloc and Third World.

Libya is supplying Uganda with \$6 million worth of oil in exchange for 3,000 tonnes of coffee.

Fixed

Members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) use barter to evade organisation fixed pricing agreements.

Oil is a relatively serviceable means of exchange as the size, sophistication and efficiency of the world market means it can be converted into cash fairly easily.

Saudi Arabia bartered 400,000 barrels per day of crude oil to Shell and British Petroleum to pay for Tornado and other warplanes worth \$8 billion from Britain in June.

Opec does not approve of barter, but many of its member countries do it. Jonathan Bell at London's Bauls Ltd said.

He also said that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) "are on a downer on any kind of countertrade, but they will give their tacit approval to offset deals. They tend to ask why goods can't be sold for cash which could then be used to pay off debts to them or other creditors."

Pakistan investment companies draw funds

KARACHI, Jan 15, (Reuters): Pakistan's small investors can either put their money in the banks—annual return 12 to 16 per cent—or they can opt for illicit private investment companies paying anywhere from 50 to 150 per cent.

Not surprisingly, the banks are losing out. They are in theory not allowed to charge interest at all as it is banned under Islamic banking rules.

Devised

And, although they have devised ways of paying investors a return, such as profit-and-loss share accounts, the rewards from the private players are so much higher that people are flocking to them.

They are convenient, profitable and totally illegal, operating under the nose of the State (Central) Bank with no books, no taxes and no government control.

Bankers estimate several hundred companies regularly pay out interest at clients' doors. The more brazen even advertise in the press.

The banks, state-owned since 1973, are up in arms about it. On January 7 the head of the Karachi Stock Exchange called for government action.

Two days later Finance Minister Yasin Khan Watto said the State Bank and corporate law authority were taking steps to put a stop to the practice. He promised "severe" measures but gave no details.

Jahan Ara, 38, a housewife with five children at school,

invested 20,000 rupees (\$1,400) to boost the income from her textile-worker husband's 1,850-rupee (\$105) monthly pay. She says her investment yields seven per cent a month.

Delivers

"A man delivers a small, white envelope containing 1,400 rupees (\$80) at my doorstep in the second week of every month, without needing any signature," she says. "I use 1,000 rupees (\$57) a month to repay a loan and spend the rest."

Thousands of other people in Karachi have pulled nest-eggs out from under the mattress, tempted by the interest rates. Others have encashed stocks, sold property and withdrawn their savings from bank accounts, say stock and estate brokers.

"We get up to 10 per cent profit every month on our investments and pay back up to seven per cent," says investment company owner Abdul Razzaq. "We still make a profit."

Most of the funds are invested in Karachi's flourishing real-estate and construction business, where annual returns rise as high as 100 per cent.

High rates

Despite a creaking infrastructure and occasional ethnic riots, the port city of over seven million is something of a boom town. It has close links with the Gulf and attracts up to 250,000 migrants, mainly from inside Pakistan, each year.

Some of the money is lent at

high rates to industrialists and importers unable to obtain capital from the government's banks because of tight credit policies.

Stock and estate dealers say some cash undoubtedly ends up in illegal businesses but little goes into Karachi's flourishing drugs trade.

Bankers say the thriving illicit business is hampering government efforts to raise Pakistan's chronically low investment level, seen by both economists and the state bank as a major obstacle to national economic development. "It has definitely drained out money from savings accounts," said a branch manager of one of the five nationalised banks.

Withdrawn

"Most of the small depositors have drawn money," another said. "We want more money in the savings accounts to extend loans to deserving people setting up industries."

"Illegal and unethical deposit grabbers should be thoroughly and strictly scrutinised and brought under income tax and corporate investment rules without which none should be allowed to operate," fumed the stock exchange's new president, Bashir Jan Mohammad, in his inaugural speech.

Not everyone sees the private companies as a threat. Some bankers say they have lured away only a small production of the banks' business.

A government economist also said the companies did not pose a long-term threat because most of

them would abscond with the investors' deposits and the victims would have to turn to police for help.

Vanished

Several companies have indeed vanished with the clients' funds, according to State Bank officials. But the tight run of illegal businesses still prospers and without government action there seems little doubt they will continue to do so.

Profit-conscious Pakistanis are more inclined to put the cash into such high-yield companies than into household goods, books and luxury items. The banks are burdened by rampant bureaucracy, corruption, restrictions of political patronage and heavy-handed government rules which hinders the economy. They cannot cope.

Deposits

Top rate of return is 18 per cent a year, on five-year deposits. Bankers say the private companies pay up to 13 per cent a month though four to seven per cent the norm.

Some would-be investors have sought funds from Dub Bahrain, Singapore and Hong Kong to invest in the ill-fated Karachi market.

They repay the foreign currency through the black market or by buying perfect legal foreign exchange certificates.

"The money is rolling on streets of Karachi," stockbroker Yunus Taji said.

Japan's knife-and-fork capital grapples with strong yen woes

TSUBAME, Japan, Jan 15, (Reuters): For nearly a century, the mainstay of Tsubame has been its knife-and-fork business, but in the land of chopsticks it has always depended on exports to stay alive.

When the yen started its dramatic rise two years ago, it dealt a body blow to the cutlery industry in this northern Japanese town.

"Endaka" (the high yen) raised the price of Japan's exports. Some Japanese industries did better than others, thanks partly to ample domestic demand. But the cutlery makers of Tsubame weren't so lucky.

Punch

"We got a double punch when the yen went sky-high," Tsubame city official Tomiei Takahashi said.

Now the town is fighting back with a new production policy boosting domestic sales and a marketing campaign that has publicised Tsubame as far afield

as New York.

But recent years have been tough. Even before the Japanese currency rose to postwar highs, Tsubame's livelihood as cutlery-makers was threatened by competition from lower-wage rivals South Korea and Taiwan, said Takahashi.

"They were cutting into our business even before 'endaka', but the 'endaka' things got infinitely worse," he said.

Bankrupt

Tsubame, a town of 44,000 people which in 1985 exported some 85 per cent of its cutlery, felt the shock almost immediately after the dollar began its slide in September 1985.

Orders plummeted, and row after row of workshops were closed as workers were laid off. In 1986, the president of a failing cutlery company committed suicide on the eve of his firm's collapse.

Two other major cutlery mak-

ers also went bankrupt, and about 10 changed to other lines of business entirely to survive, said Kiyoshi Ohhashi of Tsubame's Japan Metal Cutlery Industry Association, the cutlery workers' union.

Tsubame saw its cutlery exports drop 13.6 per cent in 1985, and a further 26.7 per cent in 1986.

Many shops and restaurants on Tsubame's main shopping street have gone out of business.

Camera show owner Masahiro Kubota is one of the last merchants still in business on his block. "It's been depressing from the beginning, but now it's only getting worse," he complained.

Took care

But unemployment among cutlery makers is surprisingly low at about 300 from the industry's total workforce of about 6,000 people, Ohhashi said.

In this close-knit community where practically everyone

knows each other, the safety net was held out for redundant silverware makers who were able to land jobs in the neighbourhood workshops and factories, he said.

The farms surrounding Tsubame took care of some displaced workers. "A lot of these guys are lucky—they have nice fields out back so they know they'll at least have food," said colleague Shiro Kaneko.

But the cruel reality was that Tsubame had to rethink its age-old dependence on exports if it was to survive.

As a stop-gap measure, manufacturers reduced their export-oriented production to 65 per cent and thus yielded a growing share of the lower-priced stainless steel market to South Korea and Taiwan, Kaneko said.

Tactic

Instead, they're concentrating on manufacturing higher-quality stainless goods, a field in which the newly industrialised

nations are not yet competitive.

Another tactic is to turn Tsubame's traditional strength in metal-working towards more viable—and less export-reliant—areas like auto parts and medical equipment, Kaneko said.

Yet another strategy is to mount a public relations campaign to beat the drum for Tsubame.

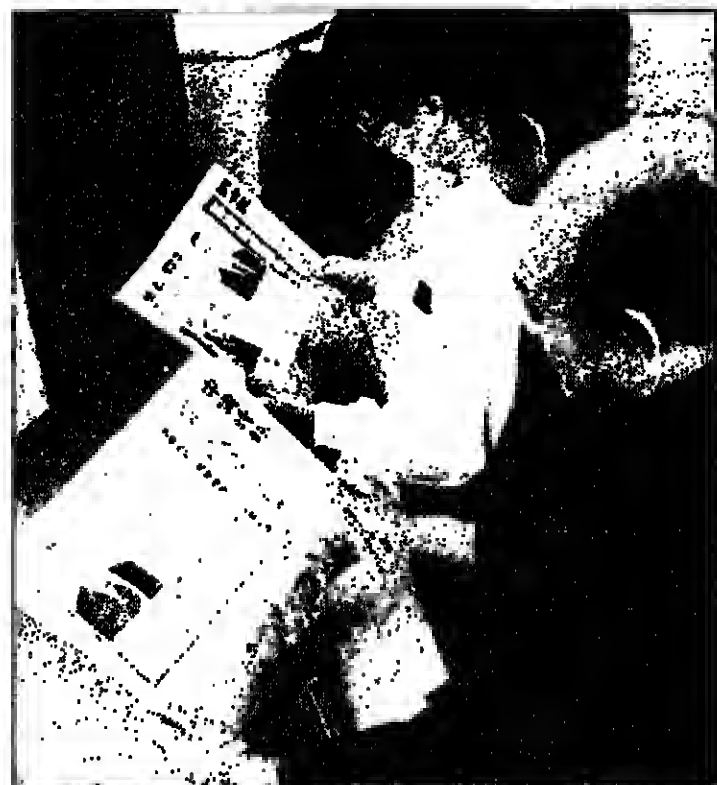
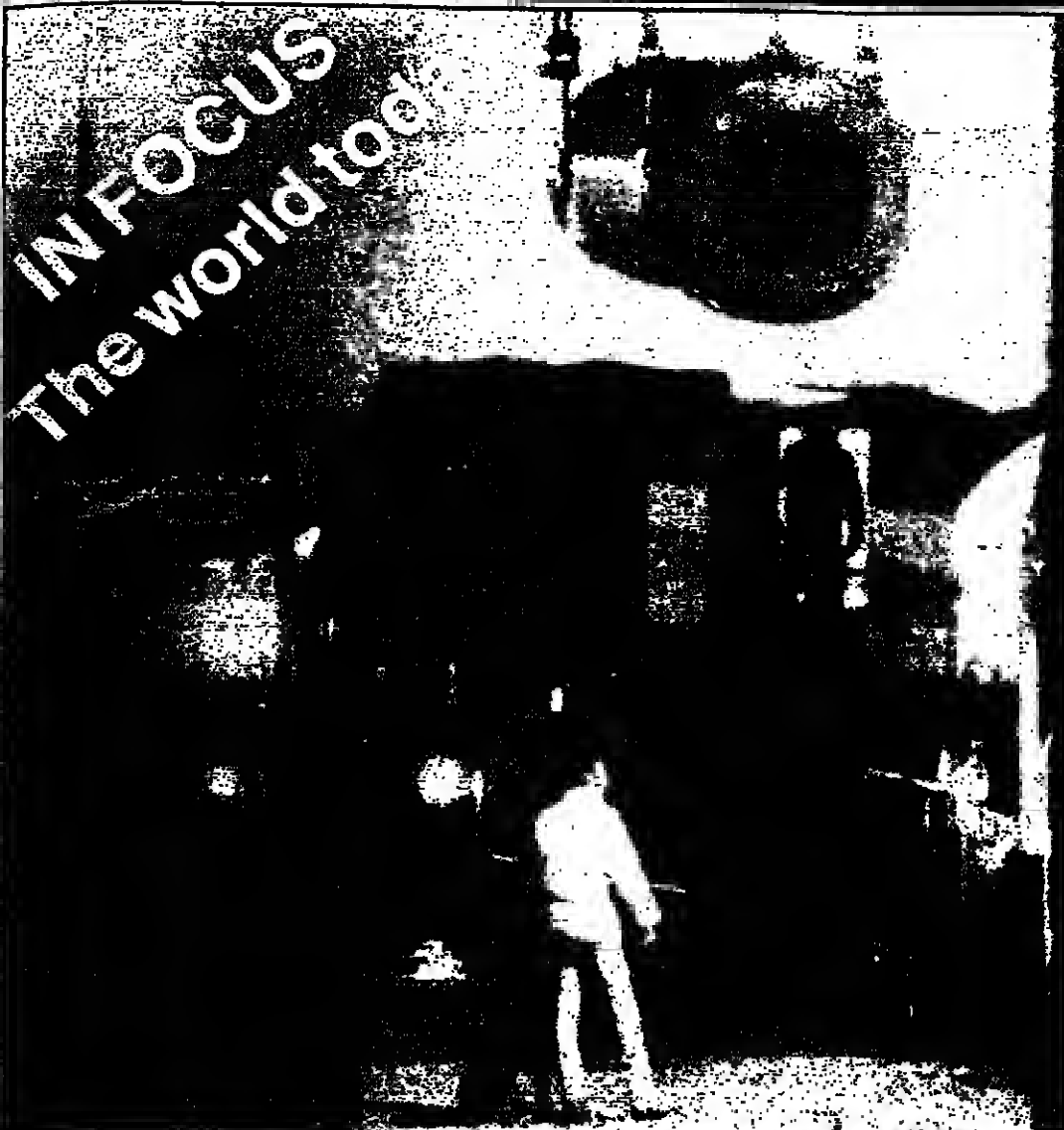
Kaneko and Ohhashi recently took the Tsubame case on the road to New York, where in November they opened a permanent cutlery exhibit.

The exhibit puts them alongside the top sterling silverware makers of the world like US silversmiths Gorham and Oneida.

"It does nobody any good to sit around and moan about the dollar dropping," Ohhashi said. "This way we're out there right next to the big boys, showing them we're still very much around."

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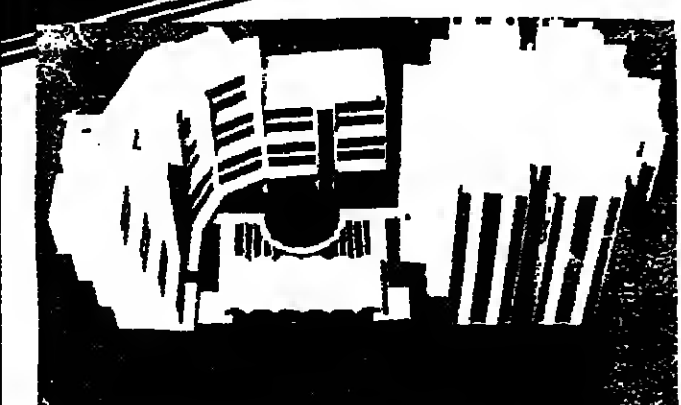
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SPORTS

Lillee's first class return draws mixed reactions

SYDNEY, Jan 15. (Reuters): Dennis Lillee's decision to put his peerless reputation on the line and return to first class cricket at the age of 38 has drawn mixed reactions in Australia.

Fast bowler Lillee retired from international cricket four years ago after taking an Australian and then world record 355 wickets in 70 Tests.

But this season, although playing club cricket in his native Perth, he has decided to join struggling Tasmania in the Sheffield Shield competition and in true Lillee fashion signalled his return by taking a wicket with his first ball against South Australia today.

The list of successful comebacks in any sport is small and commentators and players alike have been sceptical about Lillee's decision.

"It doesn't worry me at all," Lillee retorted when questioned at a packed news conference yesterday.

Warrants

"I've never worried about my reputation or the reputation of anyone I play against. I just think people should be allowed to do what they want to do and this is what I want to do."

"I'm happy that my form and fitness warrants making a comeback and that's what I intend to do."

"I've been practising three to four nights a week as well as playing at the weekends and have been doing a lot of running and general fitness work. So I'm confident my body can stand up to the strains of playing Shield cricket again."

Lillee's once-flowing locks are rapidly thinning and greystands are evident but he has always kept himself in prime physical condition and his 36 wickets at just 12 runs each in the powerful Perth first grade competition this season are eloquent testimony to his enduring skills.

With a single stump serving as a marker at team practice yesterday, the man rated by many as the best fast bowler ever to play the game knocked it out of the ground with his first delivery. He repeated the feat three balls later.

Despite Lillee's fitness and form, former Test partner Jeff Thomson has questioned the wisdom of his comeback and said a substantial financial inducement must have been offered.

"He's got nothing to prove and is leaving himself open for knockers. It'll be all right if Dennis gets wickets, but if he doesn't, the knockers will say 'silly old bastard', Thomson said.

"All I can say is that his bank balance must be looking pretty healthy right now."

New Zealand's Richard Hadlee, joint world record holder with 373 Test wickets, told a local newspaper he regarded Lillee as the greatest fast bowler ever but could not comprehend his decision to come back.

"Dennis has nothing to gain by coming out of retirement for another attempt at big-time cricket. Lillee went out on a high a few years ago and I admired his decision," Hadlee said.

"But I have no idea why he has now opted to make a comeback."

However Botham, now playing Sheffield Shield for Queensland, described Lillee as "the master of masters," and said he would make a successful return.

"The guy is a fitness freak. If you know the man, you will know anything that he sets his mind to he'll have a go at and achieve," Botham said.

Former Test captain and team-mate Greg Chappell agreed that Lillee's decision to return was a great thing for Australian cricket.

"He's not 100 per cent fit but fit enough as he has been playing in club competition," Chappell said. "Dennis's experience and ability will be very useful to the whole Tasmanian side."

HIRWANI TAKES RECORD-EQUALLING 16 WICKETS

India rout W. Indies to level series

MADRAS, India, Jan 15. (Reuters): Teenage leg break bowler Narendra Hirwani became today only the second bowler in Test cricket history to claim 16 wickets on his debut as India thrashed West Indies by 255 runs in the fourth and final Test.

The match was over before tea on the fourth day, leaving the series level at 1-1.

Hirwani, 19, exploited a difficult pitch magnificently to take eight for 75 in West Indies' second innings total of 160 to give him match figures of 16 for 136.

Claim

India had earlier taken their overnight total of 181 for four to 217 for eight before declaring to leave West Indies 416 to win.

The only other bowler to claim 16 wickets on his Test debut is Australia's Bob Massie, who took 16 for 137 against England at Lord's in 1972.

Hirwani, aided by four stumpings from Kiran More, extracted vicious turn from a pitch which West Indies have formally complained about to the Indian Board of Control.

Only Gus Logie and Clyde Butts showed any defiance, with

Logie using his feet well to smother the spin.

The diminutive Logie scored 67 off 62 deliveries, including eight fours and two sixes, before he was stumped.

He had added 61 in 43 minutes with Butts, who made 38 including three sixes before skying Hirwani to extra cover where Ajay Sharma held the easy catch.

Hirwani, who took more wickets in one Test than any other Indian bowler, began the rout before lunch when Phil Simmons hit a full toss straight to Mohinder Amarnath at mid-on when he was on 14.

Desmond Haynes was leg before soon after lunch for six and wickets fell quickly until Logie and Butts came together.

Richie Richardson was caught by Amarnath off off-spinner Arshad Ayub for seven but Hirwani claimed the crucial wicket of captain Viv Richards, caught off a top edge at second slip by Kapil Dev for four.

Carl Hooper was stumped for eight. Jeff Dujon went for two and Winston Davis for seven.

Another Test debutant, Venkat Raman, claimed the wicket of Courtney Walsh for a duck with the aid of another More



Hirwani stumping.

Yesterday West Indies formally complained to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) about the wicket prepared for the Madras Test, the touring team's assistant manager said today.

Norman MacLean told Reuters that West Indies manager Jackie Hendricks had sent a letter to BCCI president S. Srinaman and secretary Ranbir

Singh Mahendra saying the pitch was unfit for a five-day match.

BCCI officials were not immediately available for comment.

MacLean said the letter alleged the wicket had not been watered for more than a week before the match and was deliberately prepared to favour spinners and allow India to square the series.

The letter said preparing such a wicket was not good for international cricket, he added.

Hendricks told Reuters West Indies did not expect anything to result from the letter but "we wanted to get our position on record."

Scoreboard

INDIA first innings 382 (Kapil Dev 109, W. Davis four for 76)

WEST INDIES first innings 184 (V. Richards 68, N. Hirwani eight for 61)

INDIA second innings (overnight 181 for four)

K. Srikkanth 116 b Davis 17

L. Lal 116 b Walsh 1

W. Raman c Dujon b Walsh 83

M. Amarnath c Richardson b Walsh 1

M. Azharuddin c Davis b Richards 39

A. Sharma 116 b Patterson 23

K. Dev 116 b Patterson 5

R. Shastri not out 20

K. More c Dujon b Walsh 0

A. Ayub not out 3

Extras (lb-8 lb-7 nb-10) 25

Total (for eight wickets declared) 217

Fall of wickets: 1-3-2-36-3-37-4-124-5-185-6-185-7-190-8-194

Bowling: Patterson 9-2-17-2, Walsh 16-5-55-4, Davis 6-0-20-1, Butts 21-1-62-0, Hooper 6-1-20-0, Richards 18-4-28-1.

WEST INDIES second innings:

D. Haynes 116 b Hirwani 6

P. Simmons c Amarnath b Hirwani 14

R. Richardson c Amarnath b Ayub 7

V. Richards c Kapil Dev b Hirwani 4

A. Logie st More b Hirwani 67

C. Hooper st More b Hirwani 8

J. Dujon st More b Hirwani 2

C. Butts c Sharma b Hirwani 38

W. Davis st More b Hirwani 7

C. Walsh st More b Raman 0

P. Patterson not out 0

Extras (lb-4 lb-1 nb-2) 7

Total 160

Fall of wickets: 1-22-2-27-3-33-4-41-5-61-6-79-7-140-8-153-9-160.

Bowling: Kapil Dev 4-3-8-0, Amarnath 2-0-7-0, Shastri 5-0-25-4, Ayub 14-5-33-1, Hirwani 15-2-3-75-8, Raman 1-0-7-1.

Result: India won by 255 runs.

First Test: West Indies won by five wickets.

Second Test: drawn.

Third Test: drawn.

Series: drawn 1-1.



Ranatunga: couldn't save his side

Taylor takes Aussies past Sri Lankans

MELBOURNE, Jan 15. (Reuters): Peter Taylor, who fought his way back into the Australian team after being dropped, steered the side to a convincing 38-run win over Sri Lanka in a World Series Cup match yesterday.

The win assured Australia a place in the finals with eight points from five matches.

Taylor, who lost his place after last year's World Cup, took the Man of the Match award for his unbeaten 27 and his four wickets for 38.

Threatening

The New South Wales off-spinner chipped in with the vital wicket of captain Ranjan Madugalle just when the Sri Lankans looked like threatening the Australian total of 243 for eight off 50 overs.

Sri Lanka could manage only 205 from 44.5 overs after a collapse which saw the last six wickets fall for 42 runs.

The young Sri Lankan team, who beat New Zealand in Hobart on Tuesday, looked set to record another upset when Madugalle and Arjuna Ranatunga were at the crease.

They shared an exciting 97-run partnership to help Sri Lanka to recover from 66 for four and close in on the winning target.

But then Taylor claimed the wickets of Madugalle, caught for 44, and Guy de Alwis, who fell for a duck. Ranatunga was run out for 67 in the next over.

Australia had recovered from a shaky start in which they lost openers David Boon for two and

Geoff Marsh for nought with only six runs on the board.

But they revived with a 60-run partnership between Dean Jones and Mike Veletta.

Veletta notched up his highest score in the series — 46 off 68 balls.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA innings

D. Boon c Ranatunga b Ratnayake 1

G. Marsh c De Alwis b Labrooy 0

Jones c Mahanama b Ranatunga 31

M. Veletta c Jeganathan 46

S. Waugh c De Alwis b Labrooy 27

A. Border c Labrooy b De Silva 61

G. Dyer c Madugalle b Labrooy 4

P. Taylor not out 27

C. McDermott c Gurusigla b Labrooy 19

A. Dodemaidi not out 17

Extras (lb-11 w-6) 243

Total (for eight wickets, 50 overs) 243

Fall of wickets: 1-1-2-6-3-66-4-90-5-153-6-172-7-190-8-220.

Bowling: Ratnayake 8-0-24-1, Labrooy 10-1-39-4, Ratnayake 5-0-32-0, Ranatunga 10-0-47-1, Jeganathan 7-0-36-1, F.A. de Silva 10-0-54-1.

SRI LANKA innings

R. Mahanama b Dodemaidi 7

R. Kuruppu 116 b Waugh 22

Gurusigla c Border b McDermott 7

A. de Silva c Boon b McDermott 10

A. Ranatunga run out 67

R. Madugalle c and b Taylor 44

G. de Alwis c Veletta b Taylor 0

R. Ratnayake c Dyer b Dodemaidi 16

G. Labrooy c McDermott b Taylor 13

S. Jeganathan c Border b Taylor 1

C. Ranamanyake not out 6

Total (lb-8 nb-1 w-3) 205

Fall of wickets: 1-14-2-27-3-38-4-66-5-163-6-163-7-164-8-183-9-189.

Bowling: Dodemaidi 7-5-23-2, McDermott 10-2-42-2, Waugh 7-0-33-1, May 10-0-48-0, Taylor 10-1-38-4.

Cash, Lendl and Noah in last 16

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 15. (AP): Wimbledon champion Pat Cash sounded a stern warning to his rivals today after romping to a 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 victory over compatriot and close friend Paul McNamee.

Cash showed there was little room for sentiment with a clinical performance which effectively ended McNamee's career.

The former Davis Cup player had announced prior to the event that it would be his last.

Cash, the No. 4 seed, joined world No. 1 Ivan Lendl and fifth-seeded Yannick Noah in the round of 16 after both players overcame searing heat to score third-round victories.

Two seeds were ousted, with seventh-seeded Henri Leconte of France losing a fiery encounter with American Todd Witsken 7-4, 6-3, 6-4, and 12th-seeded South African Christo van Rensburg bowing out 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 to Dutchman Michiel Schapers.

In women's singles, two-time Australian champion Evonne Cawley

Evert and world No. 2 Martina Navratilova both dropped sets before overcoming young opponents.

Evert lost the first set before overcoming 22-year-old American Patty Fendick 4-6, 6-1, 6-1, while Navratilova faltered slightly before beating 19-year-old Akiko Kijimuta of Japan 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Cash said he had given full commitment to his match against McNamee.

Matters

"We are great friends off the court, but on the court we are enemies," he said. "I gave 100 per cent because I know he wouldn't have wanted it any other way. I am here to win matches. That's what matters, and I feel I'm playing better with every game."

Leconte was later fined \$500 for unsportsmanlike conduct after hitting a ball into Witsken's leg during the match. He later said he had not deliberately hit the American.

"It was an accident," he said.

Other men to advance included 14th-seeded Swede Jonas Svensson and Australian Wally Masur, the 16th seed.

Svensson endured a torrid encounter with compatriot Niklas Kroon before winning 6-2, 6-7 (4-7), 6-4, 6-3 while Masur exacted revenge on Davis Cup nemesis Ramesh Krishnan of India 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.

Masur, who defeated two-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker in the fourth round of last year's Open, now will meet Lendl in the fourth round.

The Australian also held two match points before losing to Lendl in an exhibition tournament at Sanctuary Cove in Queensland last week.

"I don't worry about other people's records or how they went against me last time," Lendl said. "I'm just here to win four more matches."

Lendl, who has yet to drop a set in the tournament, was never seriously troubled by Australian left-hander Mark Woodforde,

downing him 6-3, 6-3, 6-1. Temperatures during the centre-court clash approached 40 C. (104 F.).

"I paced myself because the heat was so unbelievable," Lendl said.

Navratilova said she had to raise the level of her game to fend off Kijimuta.

"I made a lot of unforced errors in the first set and I wasn't serving well," she said. "I knew I would have to revise the level of play and I did."

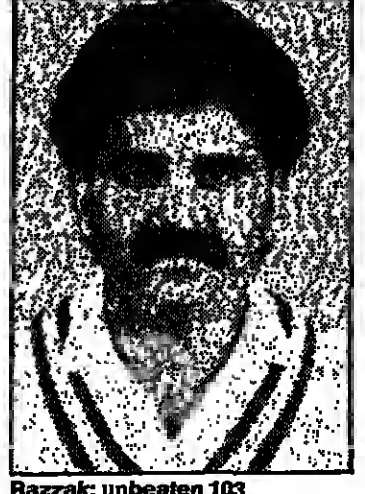
Navratilova now will face left-hander Sylvia Hanika of West Germany in the round of 16, while Evert will meet Swiss youngster Celine Cohen.

Career

Cohen will be playing the first fourth-round match of her career after scoring a 4-6, 6-1, 9-7 win over American Lea Antonopis.

Sixth-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, 10th-seeded American Barbara Potter, and 11th-seeded Hanika all scored straightforward victories.

Evergreen brush aside Casuals



Razak: unbeaten 103

EVERGREEN crushed a spirited Casuals cricket team by 70 runs in a high scoring game in the Rahim League at Alhamdi on Thursday.

Batting first, the Evergreen openers built on a solid start and started to push the score when Anderson bowled Zahid for 28 with a yorker. This brought in Razak who proceeded to hit the ball to all parts of the ground.

Razak managed to score an unbeaten 103 in only 13 overs, leaving some Casuals bowlers with embarrassing figures.

Razak was ably backed by Haider who contributed a well struck 73 not out. By the end of the innings Evergreen had put on 202 runs.

In reply, Casuals began as though they had the target in mind with Tudball and Wells quickly knocking the opening bowlers out of attack. The openers sped to 78 before Wells skied a drive and was caught for 33.

Casuals skipper Snowden then came to the wicket and carried on where he left off last week and began hitting the ball around freely. But after a while the Evergreen bowlers took control of the game and restricted the Casuals batsmen.

Although Tudball reached his 50, Casuals were only able to muster 133. Tudball and Snowden remained unbeaten on 61 and 31 respectively as Evergreen ran out easy winners by 70 runs.

Sharp strike keeps Everton's hopes alive

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters): A spectacular 75th minute goal from Scotland striker Graeme Sharp kept Everton's English Football Association (FA) Cup hopes alive on Wednesday night.

Everton drew 1-1 with Sheffield Wednesday after extra time in their third round replay, Sharp having volleyed home a last-minute equaliser to cancel out a 32nd minute goal by Lee Chapman.

Both sides had chances to settle the issue, with Everton's Gary Stevens clearing a Colin West effort of the line and Wednesday's Nigel Worthington hooking the ball away at the foot of a post after Martin Hodge had only managed to Parry an Adrian Heath shot.

Superb

Extra time failed to produce a winner and the two sides must meet again in a second replay, which will be at Everton's Goodison Park ground on January 25.

Dave Bamber headed two superb goals to give Second Division Swindon a surprise 2-0 win over Division One Norwich in their third round replay.

The tall Bamber ruthlessly exposed a lack of aerial authority in the Norwich defence by heading a Dave Hockaday corner and a Jimmy Quinn free kick past goalkeeper Bryan Gunn in the 67th and 87th minutes.

English FA turn down £20m deal

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters): The English Football Association (FA) yesterday turned down a £20million (\$36.6 million) offer from a brewery company to sponsor the FA Cup.

FA chairman Bert Millichip warned other companies considering a bid for the Cup that they will have to make an "irresistible offer" to have any hope of success.

Millichip said: "I would not consider anything below £20 million ... but there are several other terms that must be met."

"The biggest is that we will never agree to the FA Cup being called anything else. That would be totally unacceptable."

Liverpool announce deal with Italian sponsors

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters): English First Division leaders Liverpool yesterday announced a three-year sponsorship deal with Italian domestic appliance company Candy.

The deal, worth £3 million (\$5.4 million) to Liverpool, is seen by both as an act of international bridge-building following the 1985 Heysel stadium disaster which led to the loss of 39 lives.

The tragedy happened before the European Cup final between Juventus of Italy and Liverpool. All English clubs were banned indefinitely from European club

soccer as a result. Liverpool were barred for a further three seasons once the national ban is lifted.

Candy, who take over from a paint company, have a factory on Merseyside, home of Liverpool.

Liverpool chairman John Smith said: "I am delighted to welcome Candy and we look forward to a mutually prosperous future with them."

"It is particularly pleasing that the sponsorship deal offers us all the opportunity to strengthen further links between Merseyside and Italy."

Porto edge Ajax in Supercup for unique treble

OPORTO, Portugal, Jan 15. (Reuters): European and World Cup champions Porto completed a unique soccer treble on Wednesday when they beat Ajax Amsterdam 1-0 in the second leg of the Supercup final.

Leading 1-0 from the first leg, Porto made sure of becoming the first side to hold all three trophies at the same time when Antonio Sousa scored in the 70th minute.

The goal, which sparked some life into a generally dull match, came after the Dutch defence misread a Joao Pinto cross and allowed the deadly Sousa a clear shot from close-range.

Two down on aggregate, Ajax tried valiantly but were worn down by the Portuguese attack which grew more adventurous as the visitors began to tire.

Rui Barros, who played to form only in the second half, almost scored twice in the dying minutes but was foiled by a bad bounce and some last-gasp tack-

les from the Ajax defenders.

The young Dutch side had dominated much of the first half, their no-nonsense defence learning from their first-leg mistakes and snuffing out the midfield menace of Rui Barros and Sousa.

Playing well below their best, Porto created only a handful of chances and were lucky not to trail at half-time when Aron Winter pounced on a loose ball to shoot just wide in the 44th minute.

Little Rui Barros came closest for the home side when he beat keeper Stanley Menzo with a chipped shot in the 27th minute only to see the ball drift over the bar.

But the crowd of 45,000 — disappointing by Porto's standards — saw little of the sparkling play that won both clubs acclaim throughout Europe last season.

Ajax's Barry Hulshoff, acting coach after the resignation of

Johan Cruyff, said Porto deserved their win despite playing more defensively than the Dutch.

"We played to win though they gave us little room because of their more defensive set-up. We had no chance after the goal," he said.

Porto manager Tomislav Ivic said: "It was a very tactical match. But winning three trophies is a great achievement for Portuguese football."

Teams: Porto — Josef Mlynarczyk, Joao Pinto, Geraldo, Lima Pereira, Augusto Inacio, Jaime Magalhaes, Banderinha (Semedo 85), Andre, Antonio Sousa, Rui Barros, Fernando Gomes (Jorge Placido 67).

Ajax — Stanley Menzo, Danny Blind, Dan Hesp, Aron Winter, Peter Larsen, Roh Witschge (Brian Roy 64), John van't Schip, Dennis Bergkamp (Henric Meijer 80), Jan Wouters, Arnold Muchra, John Bosman.



Porto captain Fernando Gomez is hoisted on the shoulders of teammates after he received the trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

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SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Pakistani inquiry

LAHORE, Pakistan, Jan 15. (Reuters) A Pakistani inquiry commission has called England cricket captain Mike Gatting's behaviour in the second Test in Faisalabad unacceptable and also criticised tour manager Peter Lush. A report on England's recent disastrous tour, made public at a news conference in Lahore today, said Lush's criticisms of the umpiring after the first of the three Tests had raised tensions.

Monte Carlo

PARIS, Jan 15. (Reuters) Finnish and Swedish drivers will clash with the world's top Latins as they bid to thwart a hat-trick of Lancia victories in the 56th Monte Carlo rally which begins tomorrow.

Shield cricket

SYDNEY, Jan 15. (Reuters) Scores on the first day of the two four-day Sheffield Shield cricket matches today: In Devonport, Tasmania: Tasmania 111 (S. George six for 51), South Australia 68 for two. In Perth: Queensland 256 for six (Greg Ritchie 76, Rob Kerr 59, Ian Botham 54 not out, Terry Alderman 54 not out, Terry Alderman 54 not out, Terry Alderman 54 not out).

Scottish champions

GLASGOW, Jan 15. (Reuters) Scottish soccer champions Glasgow Rangers continued their remarkable spending spree today when they signed Dundee's John Brown and Danish defender Jan Bortom for a combined fee of £530,000 (\$954,000).

Eklund appeal

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters) Swedish rally driver Per Eklund's appeal against disqualification from the British Royal Automobile Club (RAC) Rally in November was rejected by an appeal court in Paris yesterday, a spokesman for the RAC said today.

Real lose

MADRID, Jan 15. (Reuters) Real Madrid conceded three goals in the last 11 minutes and crashed to a shock 3-2 defeat by lowly Sabadell in the first leg of the Spanish Cup soccer quarter-finals on Wednesday night.

Ossie Ardiles

LONDON, Jan 15. (AP) A Florida team in a new North American pro-soccer League wants to sign veteran English League star Ossie Ardiles, it was reported yesterday.

Olympic tennis

MELBOURNE, Jan 15. (Reuters) Philippe Chatrier, President of the International Tennis Federation (ITF), quashed rumours that tennis would be reduced to a demonstration sport at the Seoul Olympics.

Craig McDermott

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters) Australian fast bowler Craig McDermott is to have a knee operation that will prevent him from playing for Gloucestershire next season, the county secretary Philip August said yesterday.

Cricket profit

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters) Nottinghamshire, winners of the English County Cricket Championship and Trollope & Auld's limited over trophy in 1987, said yesterday it made £16,000 (\$29,300) profit in the last financial year.

Top boxer

CARACAS, Jan 15. (Reuters) The World Boxing Association (WBA) named super middleweight champion Chong Pal Park of South Korea yesterday its Boxer of the Month for December for his victory on December 6 over Mexican Jesus Gallardo.

Witt triumphs

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, Jan 15. (AP) Katarina Witt of East Germany skated to a dramatic version of "Carmen" to win the European Figure Skating Women's Championship yesterday for the sixth time.

Squash team

COLOMBO, Jan 15. (Kunai) A four-member Sri Lankan squash team will leave here Sunday to participate in the fourth Asian Championship to be held in Kuwait starting Wednesday.

World Cup

STRBSKE PLESKO, Czechoslovakia, Jan 15. (AP) Torngy Mogren of Sweden won the men's 15-kilometre cross-country free-skating event today in the Nordic Skiing World Cup, his third victory this season.

CHIHAB AND HANAN FINISH THIRD IN KUWAIT RALLY

Al Hilal holds off Al Wazzan for first-round win

By Gail Seery

KUWAIT champion Ahmed Al Hilal took a decisive 4 minutes 37 seconds victory over rally veteran Tareq Al Wazzan in his Marlboro sponsored Range Rover in yesterday's first round of the 1988 Kuwait championship.

Driving his new Rothmans Toyota Corolla for the first time, Al Hilal and co-driver Fahed Al Rashed suffered few problems in the ten-stage event. Third was Faez Chihab with his wife Hanan Al Shateer as a new co-driver. Ahmed Al Nasser was in fourth place in his Mitsubishi Lancer, and Tareq and Khuloud Alyan were in fifth place in their Charade.

Pleaded

Al Hilal and Al Rashed had one flat tyre on the third stage but continued, losing between 30 and 32 seconds. Other than that the event had been straightforward. Al Rashed said that he was very pleased with Al Hilal's driving. "You need to be a very good driver to handle a new car so well," he added. "You need very good notes to do well on this rally as there are quite a few tricky places." This is a remark that those whose notes were not so good would certainly agree with. He also praised the one-man service team. "It's been very good," he said. Al Hilal said he was pleased with his car and with his sponsor, and has great hopes for the new season now that he has a more competitive vehicle.

Al Wazzan was naturally disappointed to be in second place. However, "As I told you, the



Al Wazzan stays on Al Hilal's tail

Range Rover was at a disadvantage on this rally." Even so, he had been just one second behind Al Hilal when the Marlboro Range Rover had a puncture. "We didn't stop, and we drove on with the puncture for 11 km. We lost 2 minutes and 30 seconds in stage 4 through that. These stages need a fast car, not a strong car. I pushed very hard," he added. His co-driver Khaled Khalifa added that although they had tried hard it had been impossible to make up time on the Corolla.

Faez Chihab made his return to rallying after a three-year break, and like Al Wazzan before him, proved that skill is not lost so quickly. Chihab was Kuwait's first national champion, and would dearly like to take this year's title, if he can find a good sponsor. "I am glad to be back in the driving seat," he said. He praised his wife, "Hanan read the pace notes well. She was a terrific

co-driver. However there had been rear suspension problems after stage 6. Chihab said that he had offered a prize for the best novice co-driver, and for the best novice driver. "We should encourage the newcomers," he said.

Josef Miskulnig hit problems on stage 1 when he found some children on the track and had to move off the track to avoid them. He and first time navigator Klaus Schwingenschloegl hit a bump in the Nissan 240RS, "flew" and made a bad landing, damaging the steering. At that point they were "in touch with the first two cars." Further problems were in store; they drove the last two stages without 2nd and 3rd gears.

Mike Allen and Martin Phillips in the Volvo hit trouble on stage 3 when their car caught fire. They kept going despite a massive time penalty, supported admirably by Lester Feather-

Eid Fahah: tackles a curve

stonehaugh and team. Drivers were full of praise for the organisation. Al Wazzan said simply that it was "beautiful", and Al Hilal added that he did not think that Kuwait had ever had such a well organised rally.

The marshalls all worked well and there had been no problems. Miskulnig praised the attitude of some of the younger drivers, particularly Saeed Ali, who had behaved sensibly when being passed.

Some competitors were less fortunate. Al Hussein who set the fastest stage time on stage 1 went out on stage three with gearbox/clutch trouble. Again, Eid Fahah, the Marlboro sponsored driver who has had several months of bad luck suffered further problems.

Sadeq Ashkaraani, his navigator, explained: "We had engine problems from the very start. There was trouble with the carburettor and our times were

very slow. Then on stage six we had a big oil leak and didn't continue. We were second at that point."

Problems

Ali Birami suffered an electrical failure in his Mitsubishi Lancer, forcing him to drop out of the rally. Peter Freiseneger of the Volkswagen Beetle went out on the first stage with engine problems. Only 18 of the 32 drivers who set out finished. And my car, a Hamoor-sponsored Mitsubishi Pajero driven by Harry Carr rolled at the end of stage 8, when we were running in tenth place. Fortunately neither of us was seriously hurt.

Provisional results: 2. A. Al Hilal/F. Al Rashed, Corolla, 01:27:09; 3. T. Al Wazzan/K. Khalifa, Range Rover, 01:31:46; 10. F. Chihab/H. Al Shateer, Mitsubishi Lancer, 01:34:06; 9. A. Al Nasser/A. Al Khamis, Mitsubishi Lancer, 01:37:25; 11. T. Al Ayan/K. Al Ayan, Charade, 01:40:52; 22. I. Al Moawad/T. Al Attar, Datsun, 01:42:33; 32. A. Al Moosa/W. Attala, Toyota, 01:49:49; 7. J. Miskulnig/K. Schwingenschloegl, Nissan 240RS, 01:50:10; 21. N. Hassawi/A. Al Ali, Datsun, 01:52:12; 25. S. Mubarak/A. Barrak, Skyline, 01:55:41; 31. Y. Ali/A. Ahmad, Lada 1600, 01:58:40; 29. H. Al Hamid/A. Al Hamdan, Mitsubishi Galant, 02:00:31; 15. S. Ali/A. Aziz Salem, Lada 1600, 02:02:04; 23. P. Horn/M. Horn, Mazda 323, 02:04:23; 18. M. Al Omair/J. Ibrahim, Fiat Ritmo, 02:05:21; 26. M. Allen/M. Phillips, Volvo 240, 02:11:47; 29. J. Binhan/H. Kasem, Nissan 160J, 02:14:04; 19. K. Al Khammes/A. Atif Dalim, Skyline 02:31:11.



The winners: Al Hilal (right) and Al Rashed



The female co-drivers in the rally. From left: Margaret Callow, Khuloud, Hanan and Gail Seery. (Photos by Mohammed Nayer)



Tareq Alyan: strives to improve his position



Harry Carr and Gail: going smoothly before rolling over.

Osama and Rakad win at Dubai Horse Show

OSAMA Khadra produced a splendid performance to supply Kuwait with a second triumph at the Dubai Horse Show yesterday.

Taking Fury into the ten-horse jump-off for the Longines Junior Stakes, Khadra went clear in 51.02 seconds to win from Dubai's Debbie Godsave on Dubai Dancer.

Dominated

The performance resulted in more loud celebrations by the strong Kuwaiti contingent at the ten-horse show, following Lieutenant Rakad Al Dophere's success with Liwice on Thursday in the Al Bayan Speed and Handiness Stakes.

That first-day event had been dominated by Kuwaiti riders, who are expected to mount a

strong challenge tonight to the Dunhill Cup, the last and biggest event of the show.

By winning yesterday's main competition, brilliant young English rider Duncan Inglis denied Oman's Julian Trevor-Roper a second major triumph at the show.

Going last into the jump-off in the Yashika-Jashanmal Open Stakes knowing a clear round would give him victory, Inglis coolly guided Benyon to the big prize of the day.

Until then, Trevor-Roper had looked set for a winning follow-up to his first-day success in the Mitsubishi Al Habtoor Motors Open Stakes, which still marks him as a rider to watch in the Dunhill Cup, the most prestigious of all the jumping competitions at the Dubai Metropolitan Hotel arena.

Saudi Arabia's first ever victory in the Middle East's largest showjumping event arrived yesterday in the Gulfair Intermediate Open Stakes. Hassan Saif, a member of the first group of riders from the kingdom to compete in Dubai, produced a flawless round on Aglan to take the jump-off by more than two seconds.

Riders

As established names like Harvey Smith, Malcolm Pyrah and Paul Darrah struggled to make any impression, the international stars were being overshadowed by the Gulf's top riders until Inglis came out on top in yesterday's main event.

With no other clear rounds in the jump-off, Trevor-Roper had led with four faults and a quick time of 40.11 seconds on Nabilah, the horse on which he had piloted Australian star Kevin Bacon for the first Open title of the ten-nation show 24 hours earlier.

Results: Al Bayan Speed and Handiness Stakes: 1. Lt Rakad Al Dophere (Kuwait) Liwice; 2. Lymya Al Essa (Kuwait) Excite; 3. (joint) Lt Fahad Al Moteiri (Kuwait) PJ, Lt Abdullah Al Saedi (Kuwait) Salama; 5. Julian Trevor-Roper (Oman) Habibi.

Gulfair Intermediate Open Stakes: 1. Hassan Saif (Saudi Arabia) Aglan; 2. Hamda Abdullah Abuhou (UAE) Minnie the Mink; 3. Daoud Bahrami (UAE) Khan; 4. Heather Wells (UAE) Keyhole Kate; 5. Youssef Saleh (Saudi Arabia) Halem; 6. Khan Mohammed (Oman) Kuwait.

Longines Junior Stakes: 1. Osama Khadra (Kuwait) Fury; 2. Debbie Godsave (UAE) Dubai Dancer; 3. Sonja Lindroos (UAE) Boxey; 4. Teresa Carew (UAE) Frolic; 5. Mohamed Alragam (Kuwait) Calle; 6. Yasser Mubarak (UAE) Pogovorka.

Yashika-Jashanmal Open Stakes: 1. Duncan Inglis (England) Benyon; 2. Julian Trevor-Roper (Oman) Nabilah; 3. Kevin Bacon (Australia) Greendale; 4. Jamil Al Awadi (Kuwait) Ballandine; 5. Paul Darrah (Ireland) Bassam; 6. Tariq Shaab (Kuwait) Sweet Briar.

Liverpool seek records and revenge

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters) Runaway leaders Liverpool will be seeking to continue a club record unbeaten start to the English First Division and avenge a painful defeat when they meet third-placed Arsenal tomorrow.

After 22 matches without a loss, Liverpool lead the table by 13 points from Nottingham Forest and look assured of a gentle stroll towards their 17th League title.

Doomed

Arsenal, whose own championship challenge has faded with a recent loss of form, beat Liverpool in last season's English League Cup final and will face the wrath of Merseysiders for

that unexpected defeat. Arsenal look doomed to a seventh consecutive defeat at Anfield.

Liverpool's current run has set them up to challenge several long-standing English soccer records with Leeds' 29-match unbeaten run from the start of the 1973-74 under most threat at present.

After 22 matches, Leeds had won 16 and drawn six, scoring 41 goals and conceding 11 in the process. Liverpool have won 17 and drawn five and have scored 55 goals and conceded 11.

Predictably, all talk of records is scoffed at by Liverpool's player-manager Kenny Dalglish and his staff.

A Liverpool win would lift

them 17 points clear of Arsenal and virtually end the north London club's challenge, leaving only Nottingham Forest with a chance of catching them if they suffer a prolonged loss of form.

Forest — whose 1977-78 side went unbeaten for 42 matches from November, 1977, to December, 1978, to set the longest unbeaten sequence in English League history — should consolidate their challenge with a home win over Charlton.

Football Association (FA) Cup holders Coventry, struggling in the League this season, face a repeat of last season's final against Tottenham when they visit White Hart Lane.

Tottenham, recharged by

three wins in their last four games under newly-installed manager Terry Venables, are out of the League title race in ninth position, but improving steadily.

Task

In Scotland, Premier Division leaders Glasgow Celtic face a relatively straightforward task at home to Hibernian, who are likely to include winger Micky Weir, re-signed from Luton on Wednesday, four months after he had moved south of the border.

But the top attraction will be the clash between second-placed Hearts and fourth-placed Rangers at the Edinburgh club's Tynecastle ground.

Pakistan and Soviet Union reach final

LUCKNOW, India, Jan 15. (Reuters) Olympic champions Pakistan will meet the Soviet Union in the final of the Indira Gandhi men's hockey tournament after contrasting semifinal victories today.

Pakistan had to overcome a stiff challenge from Asian champions South Korea before winning 1-0, while the Soviets outplayed New Zealand 3-0.

The Pakistan-South Korea match was absorbing throughout and was finally settled 20 minutes into the second half when Shahbaz Ahmed netted the all-important goal.

Failed

In the second semifinal, the Russians were always in command after taking a seventh minute lead through Davidov.

New Zealand were awarded a total of seven penalty corners, but the usually accurate McLeod failed to find the target and the Soviet Union were quick to capitalise.

Nechayev tapped home from close range in the 30th minute and Davidov scored again soon after the interval when he collected a loose ball and weaved through the New Zealand defence to round off the scoring.

Iraq outlast Kuwait to qualify for Games

MUSCAT, Jan 15. (Reuters) Former World Cup finalists Iraq secured a place at this year's Seoul Olympics with a 1-0 win over Kuwait in a fiercely contested match today.

Joyful Iraqis who watched a live television broadcast of the game in Baghdad greeted the result with volleys of gunfire in the air.

Iraq, two of whose players went off injured, repeatedly repelled an increasingly desperate Kuwait in the second half of the game, played in Oman because of a FIFA ban on matches in countries at war.

Missed

Karem Allawi scored the only goal after 23 minutes but the Kuwaitis always threatened to equalise.

Kuwaiti captain Faisal Dakhlil missed a wide-open chance in the early minutes of the tie, the first of several narrow misses.

Kuwait, who qualified for the Moscow Olympics in 1980, had defeated Iraq 2-1 in the first leg of this west Asian group competition. They needed only to draw to make the final 12 in the fight for Olympic medals this September.

Iraq reached the final in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. In the same group, Qatar beat Saudi Arabia 1-0 in Doha. The scorer was Hassao Gawher with a penalty in the 83rd minute.

Iraq have eight points after six games. Kuwait seven, Qatar five and Saudi Arabia four.

After the match the chairman of the Kuwait Football Association, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed, congratulated the Iraqi team on its qualification for the Olympics.

However, Sheikh Fahd criticised the Jordanian referee and said that he was one of the worst that he had seen. But he was of the opinion that Kuwait should not attribute its defeat to bad refereeing.

"Although Kuwait lost the match, the team proved itself," Sheikh Fahd added.

He also said that although the referee had not done a good job, none of the Kuwaiti players attacked him and the team behaved in the best possible way. In the earlier match between the two teams, the Iraqi players had manhandled the Singaporean referee in Kuwait.

Sheikh Fahd said the team had performed to the best of its ability but regretted that it had lost and had been unable to qualify for the Olympics.

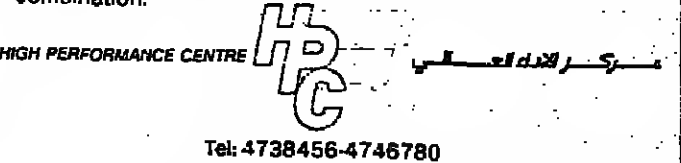
Figini wins

ZINAL, Switzerland, Jan 15. (AP) Michela Figini of Switzerland skied to an impressive victory in a women's World Cup downhill yesterday to widen her lead in the overall standings.

ALPINE

H.P.C. brings Alpine to Al Rai

H.P.C. has recently been appointed the official dealer for Alpine for Al Rai area, by the local Alpine agent Behbehani. Alpine known world wide for its high quality construction and excellent sound reproduction, is the latest addition, to the line up of top brand names available at H.P.C. The complete selection of Alpine car products will soon be on display and expert fitting is also available. Come and see what you've been missing at H.P.C. where top quality expert service and low prices are the winning combination.



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